'Polling booths termite-ridden, sustained water damage due to Soudelor.' PAGE 3
CNMI makes list of 'Big-Time Destinations.' PAGE 8

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 165

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AS TROPICAL DEPRESSION INTENSIFIED THURSDAY

Tropical Storm Condition 3 for Saipan, Tinian

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Classes still on unless Hocog declares condition 2

An intensifying tropical depression prompted the Emergency Operations Center to issue a Tropical Storm Condition 3 yesterday at 4pm for Saipan and Tinian.

As of 8pm last night, a tropical storm warning remains in effect for Alamagan, Pagan, and Agrihan, while a tropical storm watch also remains in effect for Saipan and Tinian.

According to the U.S. National Weather Service Guam, tropical storm conditions including winds of 39 miles per hour or more are possible within 24 hours.

As of 7pm yesterday, the center of the tropical depression was 175 miles west-northwest of Tinian, 180 miles west-northwest of Saipan, 190 miles northwest of Rota, 210 miles west-southwest of Alamagan, 210 miles north-northwest of Guam, 220 miles

See STORM on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Persistent rains in the past few days brought by monsoon and tropical depression caused flooding at the intersection of Texas Road and Tun Joaquin Doi Road in Chalan Kanoa. Flooding at this intersection has been a perennial problem among residents and motorists for over a decade now.

CUC: Some water wells have defects

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. wastewater manager Richard Wasser reported in yesterday's board meeting that some of its water wells have various defects adding to the current water crisis that Saipan is experiencing.

Tinian, on the other hand, will also have an island-wide water outage on Aug. 27 from 8am to 5pm for

See CUC on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board vice chair Eric San Nicolas, right, and treasurer Joe Torres check some documents that are part of reports made by acting executive director Gary Camacho in yesterday's regular board meeting at the CUC conference room at the Joeten Dandan building.

House pushes forward with $32M from casino BGRT

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Millions to govt debt to CUC
» Unprecedented $9M to judgments against govt

House of Representatives fiscal chair Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) has readied a bill appropriating $32 million from Saipan casino gross revenue tax funds for priority agencies and government obligations.

The proposed appropriations, in House Bill 19-194, come in line with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' earlier recommended list of priorities but are scaled back in their amount. Sablan's House and Ways Committee decided to base appropriations on actual figures and not Torres' full projected figure of $47 million this fiscal year.

Sablan says any additional monies not appropriated can be used in FY 2017.

The Ways and Means committee appropriated $32 million rather than

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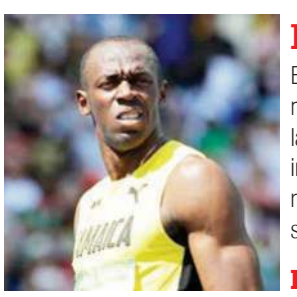
INSIDE

LOCAL
Workforce Investment Agency Summer trainee Britney C. Takai served as an administrative assistant trainee under the Department of Public Works over the summer.
PAGE 17

NATION
Frustrated with his troubled candidacy, Donald Trump is hinging his presidential hopes on a risky bet.
PAGE 22



LIFE & STYLE
Ellen DeGeneres says she's not racist after receiving backlash on social media for posting an edited photo of herself riding on the back of Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt.
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Local

Hocog signs Tinian appropriations bill

Acting governor Victor Hocog on Wednesday signed into law a Tinian local bill to appropriate $365,000 allotted to Tinian from the Saipan casino law for the Office of the Mayor of Tinian and other local programs.

» **$365K for mayor personnel, delegation operations**

The $245,000 is intended to "supplement the shortfall in revenue supporting locally funded personnel and operations" of the Tinian Mayor's Office and the Tinian municipal treasurer, "provided that up to $12,000 of the funds appropriated shall be used to maintain the Tinian Public Cemetery."

The $80,000 is marked "for the lump sum payment of annual leave of local employees of the Tinian municipality that have separated from government service but did not receive a lump sum payment for their annual leave."

The remaining $40,000 is budgeted "to defray operational costs of the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation."

The Tinian mayor is the expenditure authority of the $245,000 and $80,000 appropriations and the chairman of the Tinian delegation is the expenditure authority of the $40,000 appropriation.

With Hocog's signature, House Local Bill 19-65, D1 becomes Tinian Local Law 19-13.

The bill was authored by Rep. Edwin Aldan (Ind-Tinian). ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

‘Polling booths termite-ridden, sustained water damage due to Soudelor’

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Polling booths on Saipan need to be assessed because of termites and water damage caused by last year’s Typhoon Soudelor’s destruction, while those on Tinian and Rota are going to be replaced due of the same problem, according to the Commonwealth Election Commission.

As this developed, the administration has granted the request of CEC for $50,000 in additional funding due to their short budget.

At the CEC board meeting on Wednesday, Rota commissioner Leilani Manglona requested if they can replace all the five or six polling booths on Rota because they’re termite-ridden.

Acting CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez and Tinian commissioner Donald Hofschneider said polling booths on Tinian also need replacement.

There are about 10 booths for Tinian and Rota, and 100 for Saipan, according to Villagomez.

CEC board chair Frances M. Sablan said probably the booths for Saipan should also be assessed.

Villagomez said they are now in the process of conducting assessment of the booths on Saipan.

» Admin OKs $50K additional funding for CEC’s other obligations, temporary workers

The Saipan polling booths, which are made up of plywood, are being stored at the Division of Procurement & Supply.

Villagomez and CEC administrative officer Kayla S. Igitol told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that after completing their assessment, they will get a contractor for replacement of those damaged booths.

On the issue of designated polling places, Villagomez and Sablan agreed during the board meeting that it’s going to be the same places as the previous elections.

Villagomez said they are in the process of requesting the Public School System, Youth Center, Ada Gym, the Joeten Kiyu Public Library, and the Rota Northern Marianas College, to prepare their facilities as designated polling places.

On the matter of additional funding, in an interview after the board meeting, Villagomez said they met with acting governor Victor Hocog after an emergency call on Tuesday and that Hocog granted the release of $50,000 for CEC.

At the board meeting, Villagomez said the $50,000 will take care of some of CEC’s previous obligations and for supplies for the upcoming election.

She said $35,000 will be for all other expenses, while the remaining $15,000 will be under personnel for CEC to hire five temporary personnel for the election.

Sablan asked how much more they need for the election if the $50,000 is only partial.

Villagomez replied that they have not figured out the amount yet, but that right now they’re paying off all of the most important ones such as the gas and the car rentals so that way they can get them again for the coming election.

Villagomez also stated that CEC has three new employees after they fulfilled the FTEs.

“So they are permanent now with us,” she said.

Villagomez said they have one “loaner” employee from the Governor’s Office.

All in all, aside from the “loaner,” CEC has four employees, including Villagomez.

Villagomez said they need five temporary workers up to December and that the $15,000 will be allocated for these temporary employees.

Villagomez said they can also tap from other government agencies to work overtime during the election.

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Women market vendors suffer because of gender inequalities

The income Pacific women earn from selling in markets is critical for their families and communities yet they endure violence and barriers in multiple forms while trying to do that.

This is one of the many issues surrounding violence against women and their economic empowerment that is being discussed at the Pacific's major quadrennial meeting on gender-based violence taking place at the Warwick Resort in Sigatoka, Fiji.

"Market spaces around the Pacific illustrate the huge inequalities that women still face, including sexual harassment, unhygienic, inadequate and sub-standard selling spaces and absence of representation on vendors' associations," said Elizabeth Cox, a development worker who lives in Papua New Guinea, and whose passion for many years has been improving conditions for women market vendors around the Pacific.

Cox, affectionately known as Sabet, the former head of UN Women Pacific in Fiji, says the problems facing women do not just begin within the market precincts but start right from the women's homes and plantations where they are often the main producers.

"Those problems begin at home, to get to market, on the way to market, at the market, on the way home from the market and when they are back home," said Cox.

"These are all part of what we have to understand: that the violence is not just around the marketing and street trading.

"The violence is also happening before, whether they are allowed to go to the market, whether they have to take their children with them and then what happens to the money when they come home.

"Lack of control over the income is critical," said Cox, who has worked with market vendors in PNG, Fiji, Solomons, and Vanuatu.

One of the difficulties women face is preventing their male partners from taking all of their income and savings.

The discussions taking place at the 7th Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women are focused on the multitude of issues surrounding violence against women in the Pacific.

Held every four years, the meeting gathers practitioners, government agencies, and their representatives and organizations responding to violence against women and children.

More than 60 people are attending the current meeting, which runs from Aug. 12 to 19 and is focused on the theme of responding to and preventing violence against women and girls in the Pacific.

The meeting has heard updates from 13 countries and territories on the work at a national level and how it links to regional and international mechanisms aimed at ending violence against women and girls.

Religious fundamentalism, patriarchy and cultural barriers and how they affect the rights of women and girls to live a life free from violence are being discussed.

Other topics include: the health system and the protocols for dealing with survivors of sexual and physical violence; women's access to the justice system; prevention initiatives and how men can work with women to prevent violence.

A number of men working with women's organizations to end violence in their communities will also be participating. These Male Advocates for Women's Human Rights have undergone training on working in partnership with women to change men's attitudes and behaviours about violence.

Participating at the meeting are representatives from the Cook Islands, PNG and Bougainville, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Fiji. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants from around the Pacific are meeting at the Warwick, Sigatoka, Fiji for the 7th Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women Meeting.

HOUSE

From Page 1

the full amount after looking at numbers provided by the secretary of the Department of Finance and the Commonwealth Casino Commission, showing what has actually been paid to Finance so far, Sablan said.

They also took into account the average monthly BGRT tax paid out at around $2.2 million or $2.5 million, he said.

"We decided to conservatively just add $2 million more to what's already been paid in as of July," the lawmaker told *Saipan Tribune*.

"That's conservatively appropriating that amount," he continued. "There might be more. The August amounts might be more than the $2 million and we also have September collections but we decided that we would rather work with actual figures so the money becomes immediately available upon signing by the governor."

Bottom line, they are working with $15 million less than what was estimated in the governor's earlier message.

Sablan said his bill should be ready for a session eyed next week Tuesday, where they also intend to pass a FY 2017 budget bill. The Ways and Means Committee recommended passage of the bill in a Aug. 15 committee report.

Millions to govt debt to CUC

H.B. 19-194 appropriates $2.5 million for Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC) Rate Subsidy; $16 million for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to pay its outstanding balance to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.; $1.6 million for the Medical Referral Program's outstanding obligations to Guam Memorial Hospital; $9 million for the payment of land compensation judgments; and $2.9 million to the Public School System for utility debt to CUC, $100,000 of which shall be used to pay of outstanding balances owed to school meal vendors and another $100,000 to pay school's maintenance and repairs.

According to Sablan, the PSS monies essentially free up $1.2 million in their current FY 2017 budget submission originally intended to also pay for outstanding utilities for next fiscal year in the amount of $100,000 per month for twelve months.

This means the $2.9 million from the casino BRGT will free up the $1.2 for PSS' other budget needs.

The $16 million from the casino BGRT from the hospital and the $2.9 to PSS, Sablan said, will help CUC help immediately.

"That's cash on hand. That's money that finance should be ready to remit to CUC right away. It's not projections," he said. "Once the governor signs it and the billings between CHC and CUC are agreed upon, Finance can immediately pay for those and then the land compensation" and government obligations.

These include various judgments and settlements, from medical malpractice to contractual judgments, among others.

Sablan's bill spells out how these will be paid according to priority.

Judgments between $1,000 and $50,000 regardless of date will be paid in full, per his bill.

Judgments over $50,000 will be paid on a proportional basis.

Sablan explained this as proportional to "to what's owed and what's appropriated."

He also underscored how an economic turnaround was able to help them "do all of this."

"We have to bear in the mind that from FY 2015 to FY 2016, we basically had a supplemental budget increase of roughly $10 million. But that $10 million really just went to increases in Group Health and Life insurance and the Settlement Agreement. But from FY 2016 to current, the increase in general fund went up roughly $24 million—and on top of that the casino BGRT at the least for FY 2016, is at $34 million. So that's roughly $50 million additional from FY 2016," he said.

"That's very substantial, which is why we have got to ensure the current economic policies continue," he added. "And that's why in [the FY 2017] budget, we try to allocate monies to those agencies like Zoning Board to make sure that while we welcome the added economic activity, we make sure that the development is planned. We don't want to keep building without any consideration to the environment and other considerations out there. We still welcome the development but it's got to be a controlled, planned development. That's why we look to those agencies to try to help them. We try to give them more resources to do the job."

If the economic progress continues, Sablan believes they should look to continue improvements to the hospital and long-term improvements to the campus of the Northern Marianas College, as well looking at possible legislation for a new museum to showcase the culture of the NMI.

CUC

From Page 1

maintenance and other repairs. The CUC Tinian office has began informing the public of the scheduled temporary water cutoff.

Defective meters, leaks, and water theft are the other reasons why at least 10 million gallons—or 70 percent of water CUC produces—are wasted every day. These are some of the reasons why CUC is pushing for a reverse osmosis water treatment system for Saipan.

Seven of the 31 water wells were shut down or went offline after the discovery of PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) and PFOS (perfluorooctanesulfonic acid) as contaminants in the water.

Wasser said the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommended the said wells to be taken off the system. He added that they don't know when the wells will be reopened.

There are also nine water wells that need repairs by replacing pipes and motors to improve water service. CUC's current water flow is 160 gallons per minute and if the pipes and motors get replaced, it would increase to over 400gpm.

CUC's target is to bring water flow from 400gpm to 600gpm that would augment the water supply and address shortages experienced in the Garapan north area.

There are also six water wells that have low water levels and Wasser said they are hoping the percolation of rainfall would help replenish the supply.

"The water levels on the wells are due to low ground water levels and we have to do some re-drilling," said Wasser.

Saipan is now divided into 50 areas where 33 have 24-hour water supply, while the rest have scheduled water interruptions. Water supply in the upper Chalan Galaide going down Mt. Tapochao and Navy Hill areas are still under scheduled hours.

Undetected leaks on the roads have also caused water interruption where leaks can easily be detected if the pipes explode. Leaks in residential areas can easily be detected because of the water meters.

Last month, water distribution in the As Lito, Dandan, and Koblerville areas were cut short during one weekend because of busted and old water pipes that can be traced back from World War II, according to Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan).

STORM

From Page 1

southwest of Pagan, and 250 miles southwest of Agrihan.

Packing maximum sustained winds at 35mph, as of 7pm yesterday, the tropical depression was moving northeast at 10pmh and was expected to turn to the north while gradually increasing in forward speed the next 24 to 36 hours.

The forecast is that the tropical depression, which could become a tropical storm later Thursday night, will move farther away from Saipan but very close to Agrihan, Pagan, and Alamagan today, Friday, at 10am.

Public information specialist Daisy Demapan said that as of 4pm yesterday, Tropical Storm Condition 2 was also issued for Pagan, Agrihan, and Alamagan.

"Please secure loose objects such as tents, building materials, and any other objects that may become loose due to winds," said Demapan in a press statement.

Demapan said as of 3:30pm, the U.S. National Weather Service Guam has advised of heavy rains and possible flash flooding Thursday night until today, Friday.

Acting education commissioner Yvonne Pangelinan said yesterday that it's too early to tell about cancellation of classes.

"If the acting governor Victor Hocog declares condition 2, classes will be cancelled, but until then, we are still on," Pangelinan said.

Persistent rain in the past few days caused flooding in some low-lying areas on Saipan.

$15M found for retirees' shortfall in 2018 from casino BGRT

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House Ways and Means committee is recommending passage of a bill that would set aside $15 million from the Saipan casino's gross revenue tax funds to make up for a shortfall in retirees' pensions in 2018.

House Bill 19-131, authored by Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan), originally intended to add the departments of Public Safety and Fire and Emergency Management Services, the Northern Marianas College, and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute and "the 25 percent pension payments to CNMI Retirees" as agencies or areas eligible under Saipan casino law for these casino gross revenue funds.

Ogumoro

But, in adopting and recommending for passage the bill, the Ways and Means committee, in their Aug. 8 report on the bill, deletes NMC and NMTI from the list and the provisions for the retirees.

They deleted a provision to have the casino funds "cover any shortfall in the funding of the" retirees 25 percent pension.

Instead, they inserted a provision that "reserves $15 million of the casino business gross revenue."

Because the CNMI government took up front the first and fifth years of the Saipan casino's license fees, which fund these pensions, there will be no casino fee in the fifth year to fund these pensions in 2018.

The committee's redrafted the bill so $7.5 million would be appropriated for years 2017 and 2018 "for use in 2018 to compensate the absence of the payment" of the casino license fee.

The bill also establishes a casino BGRT account separate from the general fund, where the funds in the account will not lapse and are not subject to fiscal year limitations.

As for removing NMC and NMTI, the committee explains that another bill, House Bill 19-52, which amends the same casino law statute to include NMC and NMTI was passed by the House earlier in the year and transmitted to the Senate for action.

Chinese national facing 'ice' charges wants to prohibit use of plural pronouns

Plural pronouns mean a lot to the defense of a Chinese national who is facing charges in federal court over methamphetamine or "ice" shipment.

David G. Banes, the court-appointed counsel for defendant Zhaopeng Chen, has filed a motion requesting the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue an order prohibiting witnesses, interpreters, and counsel from using plural pronouns in formulating questions or providing answers in the upcoming trial.

"Such an order from the court will stave off potential confusion, will reduce the possibility that the jury will be mislead as to defendant Chen's involvement, presence or knowledge, and will better allow the jury to complete their truth-seeking junction," said Banes in Chen's motion in limine.

Motion in limine refers to a request made before the start of a trial asking that the judge rule that certain evidence may, or may not, be introduced to the jury in a trial.

The indictment charged Chen, Xi Huang, and Shicheng Cai with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine over the shipment of 4.9 lbs of "ice" worth $850,000 in 2015.

A routine Customs inspection at the Port of Saipan of a 40-foot container from Guangzhou, China, reportedly resulted in the discovery of the 4.9 lbs of "ice" hidden in three plastic bags in one of the nine 5-gallon paint containers on Dec. 2, 2015.

Joint federal and local enforcers investigated the discovery of the "ice" that later led to the arrest of the three defendants.

Huang and Cai both pleaded guilty. Huang was recently slapped with 188 months or 15 years and eight months of imprisonment. Cai has yet to be sentenced.

In Chen's motion filed on Tuesday, Banes asked the court to instruct each witness against using plural pronouns such as "we" and "they," and instruct the interpreters to never substitute plural pronouns "we," "they" or any equivalent, but instead to refer to particular individuals.

Banes requested the court to issue an order requiring witnesses, interpreters, and counsel to use the names of the individuals in each question and answer.

The defense lawyer said Huang, during his change of plea allocution, denied that Chen was involved in the conspiracy.

Banes said Cai, during his change of plea allocution, stated that he did not know if Chen was involved.

Banes said the allegation in this case is generally that Chen was a passenger in Huang's car while Cai, in a different vehicle, picked up paint buckets from a warehouse, put them in his own vehicle, and dropped one of the paint buckets off at a third vehicle.

Later, Banes said, Chen and Huang traded places, and Chen began driving.

The lawyer said Chen was not with Huang and Cai when they obtained the drugs in China, did not make any of the plans to transport the drugs from China, was not with Huang and Cai when the two of them flew together to Saipan, did not stay at the same hotel as Huang and Cai.

Banes said Chen never had contact with Cai before the day of the arrest, and Cai admits that he does not know if Chen was involved in the drug trafficking plan.

Banes said Chen did have contact with Huang's wife in China, and stayed at the hotel owned by Huang's wife in China, and stayed at the hotel owned by Huang's parents while on Saipan.

Banes said there is a real danger that the use of plural pronouns, will confuse the jury, impede the truth seeking function, and prejudice Chen, because without precise language, jury members will think that "they" or "we" includes Chen when it only refers to Huang and Cai.

The lawyer said in this case, Chen is the only individual on trial, and many of the events that will be described by the U.S. government to establish the existence of a drug trafficking conspiracy will involve only the actions and presence of the two co-defendants Cai and Huang, who have already pled guilty. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Measure to repeal statute preventing lawmakers' employment at BSI offered

Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) has authored a bill to repeal a section of the Saipan casino law that currently prevents lawmakers from the 18th Legislature and their immediate family from being employed by the Saipan casino and its affiliated companies for five years.

House Bill 19-195 repeals this section, or "Persons Ineligible for Employment," in its entirety.

The Saipan casino law, ushering in Saipan's new casino industry and licensee Hong Kong-based Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC was passed during the 18th Legislature.

The law currently provides that: "Members of the 18th CNMI Legislature and their immediate family...shall not be paid or receive any financial consideration nor shall they be retained as independent contractors or employed directly or indirectly by any casino licensed under this chapter in its current from or as amended, or by said casino's affiliates or agents, for a period of five years beginning from the date of the issuance of the said casino's license." ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

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Tuesday, September 6th - Opening Ceremony
Sunday, September 11th - 9/11 Memorial Ceremony
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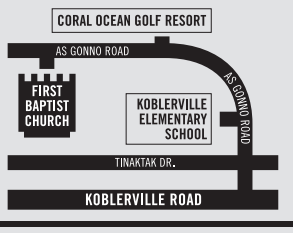
- Friday Youth Night - 6:00pm



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'Medical Referral program extensively assists patients'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Medical Referral Services Program has been assisting patients as much as they can, even providing logistic support to those who have private insurance, according to program director Ronald D. Sablan.

He said the program has three satellite offices in Guam, Hawaii, and the Philippines where CNMI residents usually travel to seek medical care not available on Saipan.

Sablan said the cost they spend for patients varies from place to place.

"The cost of living depends where they are getting treated. The costs in Guam is different from that in Hawaii."

He added that they help patients under their program by providing transportation, hotel, stipend, and other basic needs. "For example in the Philippines, we provide transportation from the airport to the hotel, hotel to the hospital, and vice versa."

"But if the patient has a private insurance we only provide transportation services. Patients with private health care providers choose their own hospital, so the only part we do is to provide transportation services," said Sablan.

"The medical stipend must also be commensurate where the patient is referred to whether in the Philippines, Guam, or Hawaii. Hawaii has the higher stipend since expenses there are also high," he added.

And with Medicaid not honored in the Philippines, the program shoulders 80 percent of the bill with the patient only paying the 20 percent share. Most of the patents seeking treatment in the Philippines are U.S. citizens and the program pays for the expenses.

"We make sure patients get the proper treatment and not get overbilled. We review their hospital billing and we help patients by paying their medical bills," said Sablan. "We assist them as much as we can."

Patients then issue promissory notes to them and that is why the program incurred close to $5 million in bills from the promissory notes they have issued. And Sablan said they have asked the help of the Attorney General's Office if they could refer the problem to a collection agency.

The program sends an average of over 800 patients a year for medical referrals with the largest going to the Philippines to seek treatment. Expenses for the Philippines reach $2.1 million annually.

Sablan is asking the Legislature for an operating budget of $8.4 million for the coming fiscal year, more than double the proposed $4 million of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. The program is one of the core areas that Torres identified.

The program has already spent $5 million in actual expenditures for FY 2016 with $2.1 million in the Philippines alone. The program would only need less than half of the $8.4 million if they were not paying the expenses incurred by Medicaid patients.

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By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinars@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI makes list of 'Big-Time Destinations'

Travel, food, and drink website Thrillist included the CNMI in their "14 Tiny Countries that are Big-Time Destinations" article posted on their website www.thrillist.com.

The article was published last Aug. 12, 2016. The rest of the countries that made the list are Slovakia, Singapore, Costa Rica, Scotland, Nepal, Dominican Republic, Monaco, Vanuatu, Rwanda, South Korea, Mongolia, Belgium, and El Salvador. The CNMI made it to the list despite not being a country. It's a commonwealth in poltical union with the U.S.

The website described the CNMI as, "An island paradise with vodka-clear ocean waters and white sandy beaches."

Marianas Visitors Authority's board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce expressed how proud she was to see that the CNMI was gaining some publicity from the Internet.

"It's always wonderful when the Northern Marianas is included on a list of great destinations, especially when it is unsolicited by us. We are the underdogs because we are tiny but obviously we are making an impression on people out there in the world because we were picked to make the list," said Aldan-Pierce in an email to *Saipan Tribune*. "To be included in a list that includes Monaco, Nepal, Scotland, Mongolia—very cultured, internationally renowned places…what's not to love about that!"

The list also described many of the CNMI's tourist destinations. Saipan's Grotto was described as, "A collapsed limestone cavern turned world-famous freediving and scuba diving destination." Managaha is, "A pipsqueak islet perfect for snorkeling, swimming, parasailing, and simply relaxing on the beach." Also beautifully mentioned was Saipan's Forbidden Island. Tourists are invited to, "Take the steep hike down to a local favorite on Saipan, a sapphire tidal lagoon by an outcropping called the Forbidden Island—which is, point of fact, neither."

Being board chair of the MVA, Aldan-Pierce can't help but think about the publicity the CNMI is receving. "I wonder how many times we've been Googled these past 24 hours because of this," said Aldan-Pierce.

What was also impressive for Aldan-Pierce was how the CNMI was represented in the article. "The contributor, Ms. Agnes Constante, apparently used to live here but now lives and writes from California. I love her casual, fun style of writing. In less than a thousand words, she just about covered everything that there is about us," writes Aldan-Pierce. "Who we are, what we are, fun tidbits about our destinations, our quirky foods…she makes you want to pack your bags and come to experience us!"

Aldan-Pierce also commended Constante on her comparison of Saipan to other states in the U.S. "We are 2.5 Washington, DCs. FUN comparisons!" she wrote.

Aldan-Pierce added, "We are lucky and should be very thankful for who we are and what we have…14 beautiful, exotic islands….and just as beautiful, exotic people…"

Thrillist Media Group is part of Digital Media Company and is based in New York. Founded in 2004, it consists of a website hosting various food, drink, and travel insights.

Bill to waive inter-island wharfage fees signed into law

A Senate bill has been made law to limit the wharfage fees charged by the local ports authority to cargo offloaded at a port or harbor in the Commonwealth, as well as to waive wharfage fees on cargo shipped to and from the islands within the CNMI.

Acting governor Victor Hocog signed the Senate Bill 19-01 on Wednesday, making it Public Law 19-62.

The purpose of the act is to ensure that wharfage fees are charged on time for commodities that are off loaded at any port or harbor under the Commonwealth Ports Authority jurisdiction.

This means the same commodities won't be assessed wharfae a second time regardless whether the same cargo is shipped from Saipan to Rota or Tinian on a different vessel.

The bill also provided that no wharfage fees will be assed on cargo shipped to and from any CNMI port or harbor.

Per the new law, wharfage fees will be limited to all cargo including liquid petroleum products shipped from outside the CNMI and offloaded at the Port of Saipan, Rota West Harbor, or Tinian Harbor; provided that no additional wharfage fees will be assessed on the same cargo when shipped among ports under CPA and in the CNMI.

No wharfage fees on all cargo including petroleum products shipped to and from Saipan, Rota West Harbor, or Tinian Harbor, the bill states.

"The cost of commodities on Rota and Tinian is a great burden to the customers," the bill states. "A portion of the added cost is a result of the wharfage fees imposed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority on commodities shipped from Saipan to Rota and Tinian.

Sen. Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian) authored the bill. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

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COMMONWEALTH
ZONING BOARD

Commonwealth Zoning Board Special Public Hearing Agenda
Tuesday, August 23, 2016
5:00 PM, Tanapag Social Hall
(Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

B. Public Hearings

Conditional Use Application #2016-1360 (Amendment):
Castle Project (CNMI), LLC has proposed to amend its Conditional Use Permit to renovate and utilize an additional existing warehouse structure (Building E) formerly used by Top Fashion Factory for employee quarters. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Tanapag on lots 030 B 15, 030 B 13, and 030 B 18. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

C. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

D. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board Special Public Hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

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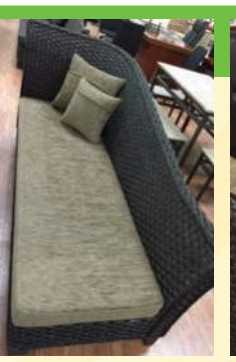

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Marianas High School partners with DPS anew

JON PEREZ
Marianas High School students line up to get their class schedules during the first day of classes for school year 2016-2017 last Monday at the campus grounds.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Safety officers are once again on patrol at Marianas High School to make sure peace and order is maintained on the island's most populous campus. MHS has a current student population of 1,668 this school year, according to vice principal Bobby James A. Cruz.

Cruz said keeping the school grounds secure and safe is part of their job as educators. "These are our children, so we have security personnel at the gates to monitor and see who is coming in and out of the campus.

"We have the support staff to make sure the smooth flow of traffic at the drop off area. Then we have police officers who are also on campus, in partnership with DPS," added Cruz.

He said that building a better relationship between the students and the police officers is a community-based framework. "Police officers are a part of this community. Having these police officers in school, to be able to talk to kids on a daily basis, is to build positive rapport."

Cruz added that the presence of police officers had had a positive feedback. "Their presence mitigates a lot of issues. And I think that it restores public trust with our police officers. The program has been great and we received positive feedback from parents and students."

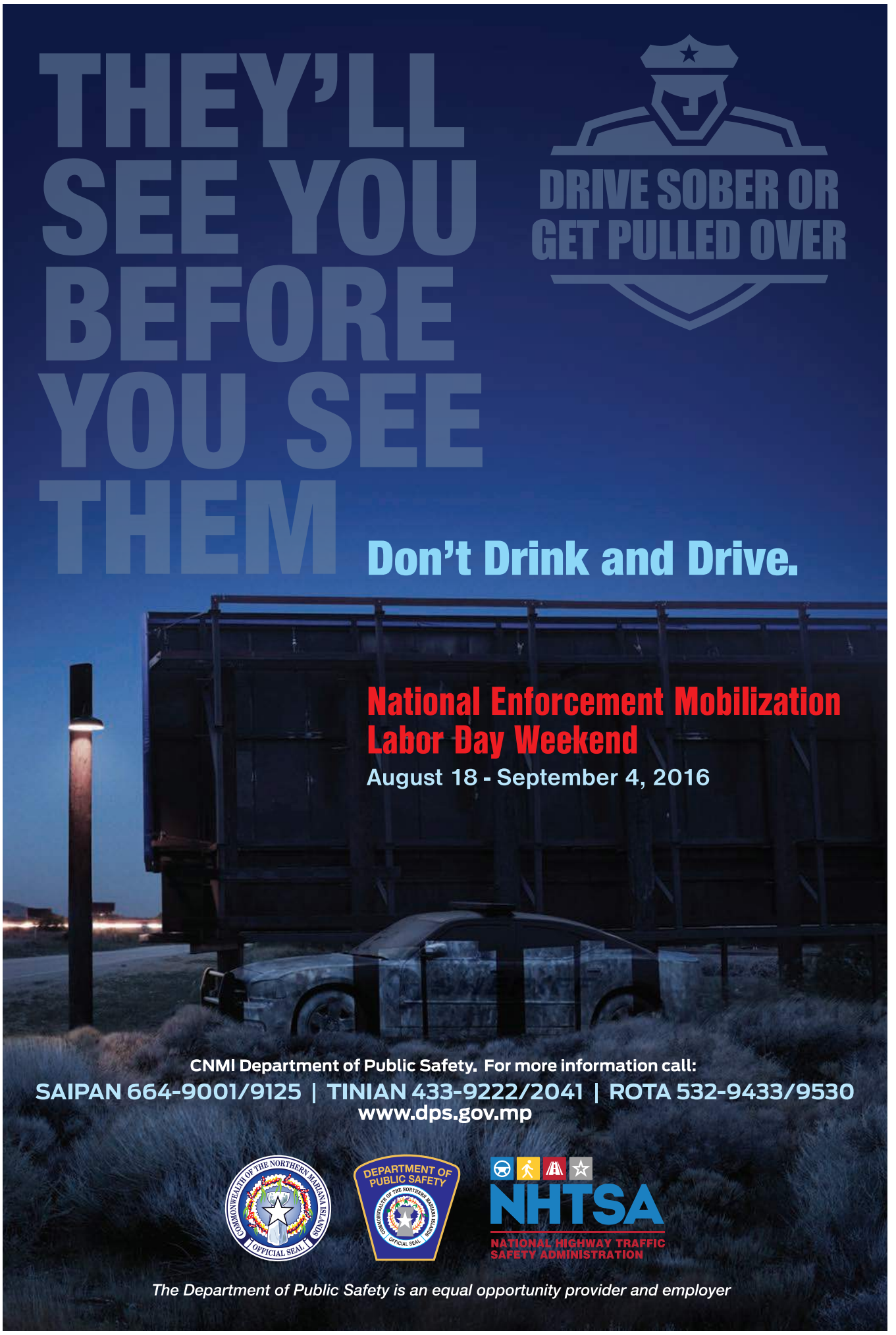
"The message that we want to send is we don't want to create fear. We have events where there are large crowds and there are always police officers there to maintain peace and order. We have a large crowd in our campus every single day."

He said having the presence of police officers ensure that peace and order is maintained. "And should anything occur, either internally or externally, we have our police officers there who are well trained and ready to help us manage the situation."

"Our goal is student safety and having them—police officers and security personnel—helps us accomplish the task. The whole year, they will be on campus everyday with us," said Cruz.

Cruz said the DPS has always been a strong partner of MHS. "DPS have been our partner for many years now. They have assisted us every school year."

"When we need assistance, we reach out to DPS. There are situations that call for their involvement," Cruz added. "You often see them talking with the principal, the staff, or the students."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P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

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Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **ANA C. MAGOFNA,** Defendant.	**Civil Action No. 15-0092** **NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgement made and entered in the above titled action on the 2nd day of December, 2015, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **31st day of August, 2016 at 10 a.m.**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgement, to wit:

Lot 004 B 39, (formerly Lot 2, Block 9, TD 437), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 004 B 00, the original of which was registered on 09 JUN 71 as Document No. 829 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) to reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction of sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 18th day of July, 2016

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Man accused of smashing truck's windshield gets 6 months in jail

A man accused of smashing the front windshield of his father's Toyota T-100 pickup truck with a hollow block and damaged other items in their house, pleaded guilty on Wednesday and was slapped with a six-month imprisonment.

Franklin Anthony Arriola Agulto, 23, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace (domestic violence).

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho accepted Agulto's guilty plea and the plea deal.

Camacho ordered the defendant to serve the six months imprisonment day for day without the possibility of parole, probation or work release.

Agulto was given credit for 85 days of time served.

After the hearing, Camacho ordered the court marshal to take the defendant back into the custody to start serving his sentence immediately.

The Office of the Attorney General amended the information/charges thrice, leaving only the charge of disturbing the peace, which carries a maximum sentence of six months.

On May 4, 2016, the OAG filed the information charging Agulto with criminal mischief, disturbing the peace, and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

Later on that same day, OAG filed an amended information containing one count of criminal mischief (domestic violence), disturbing the peace (domestic violence), and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

On May 17, 2016, OAG filed a second amended information containing criminal mischief (domestic violence), disturbing the peace (domestic violence), and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

On Wednesday, OAG filed an unopposed motion for leave to amend information, moving the court to file an amended information in this matter in order to dismiss two of the offenses charged in the previous case. The court granted the unopposed motion that day.

The third amended information contained one count of disturbing the peace (domestic violence).

Camacho noted that Agulto has a pending criminal case for disturbing the peace.

Camacho said it's the OAG that decides what charges to file and the court can only hear the case and charge that the OAG files.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on April 20, 2016 on Saipan, Agulto smashed the cabinets in his mother's house, causing her to call the police.

Police said Agulto damaged the front windshield of his father's truck and other items in the house, after his mother refused to allow him to use the vehicle.

When police officers responded to the house, they also found near the residence some marijuana plants in flower plots that Agulto allegedly planted the marijuana.

Agulto also allegedly punched one glass cabinet, smashing it. As a result, he sustained a cut on the right hand. He also threw and smashed a cooking pot at another glass cabinet door.

The mother and sister told police that the marijuana plants found near the house belong to Agulto, who is a marijuana user. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Labor reinstates suspended sanction vs company

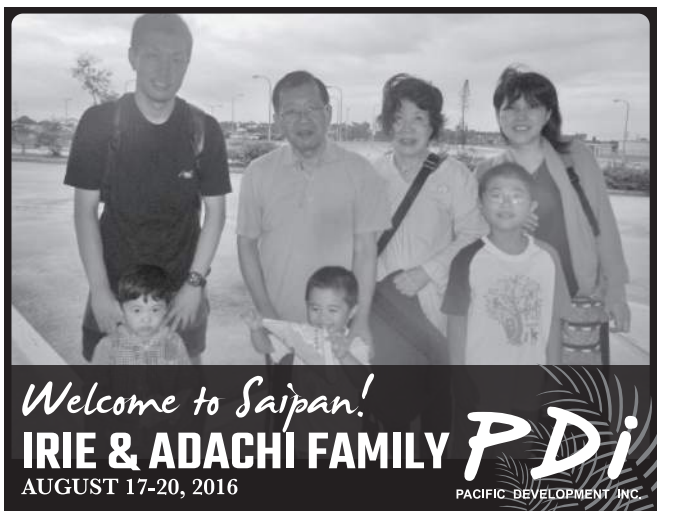
The Department of Labor's Enforcement and Compliance Section ordered the reinstatement of suspended sanctions for China Yanbian Foreign Eco. and Tech Cooperation Corp. for failing to comply with an administrative order issued on June 17, 2016.

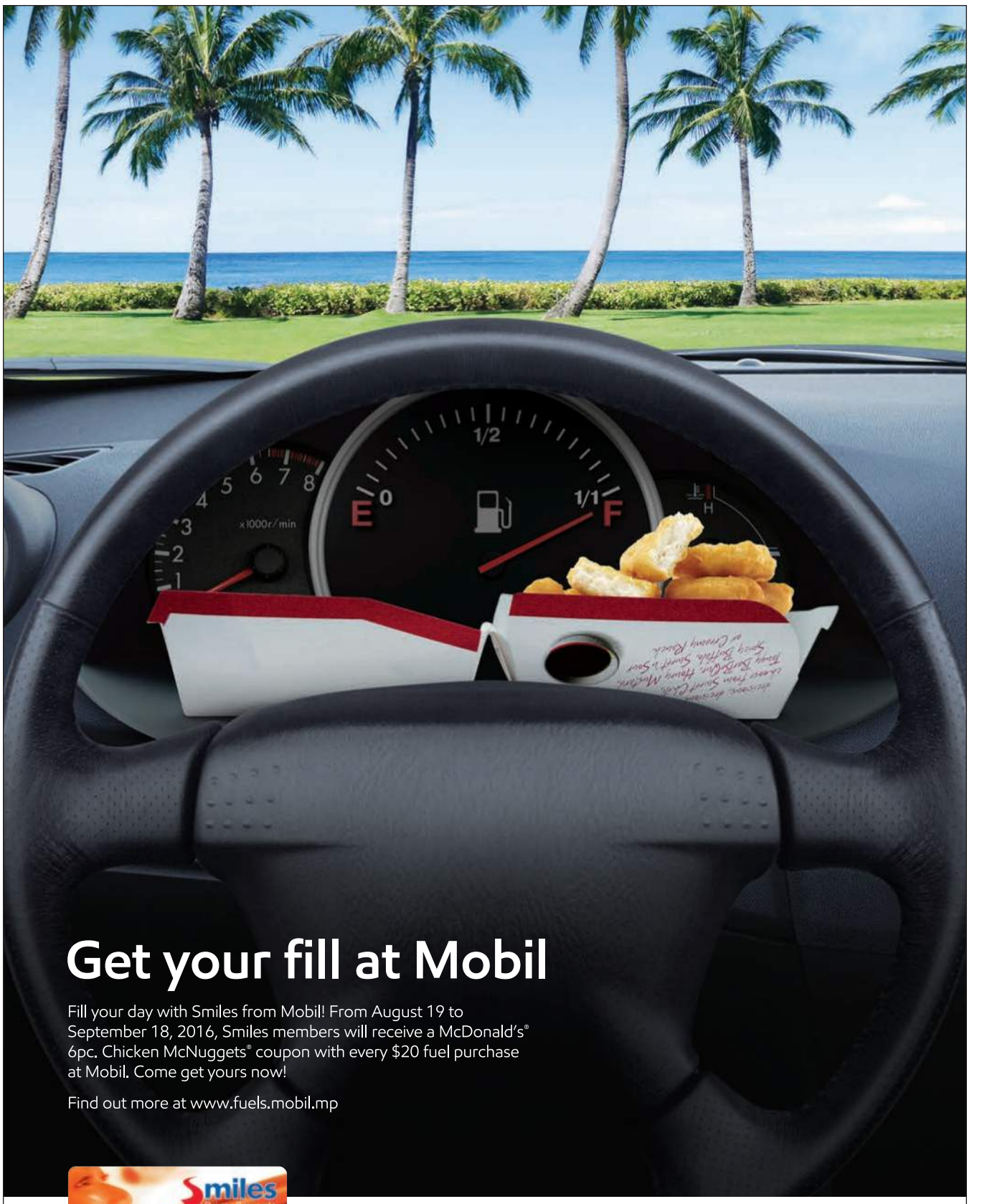
According to the administrative order, China Yanbian Foreign Eco. and Tech Cooperation must produce certain payroll records by June 20, 2016.

An order to show cause hearing was held on July 1 and at the conclusion of the hearing, hearing officer Jerry Cody imposed a sanction for failing to produce these documents.

The sanctions order which was issued on July 6 and Labor imposed a $2,000 fine and demanded the corporation to produce the remaining missing payroll documents no later than July 11, 2016. However, by July 28, no payroll documents were provided by China Yanbian Foreign Eco. and Tech Cooperation n.

As a result, Cody found good cause for China Yanbian Foreign Eco. and Tech Cooperation to pay the reinstated sanction of $1,000 no later than 30 days after the date of the issuance of the order. ***(Joan L. Taitano)***

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International Festival to highlight hands-on fun

The Marianas Visitors Authority is adding a personal touch to the 2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures, which kicks off on Saturday, Aug. 20, at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.

The festival will also be held Aug. 27 and Sept. 3, 10, 17, and 24 from 5pm to 10pm and will celebrate the cultural diversity of the Northern Mariana Islands. This year, the MVA and participating culture are putting equal emphasis on stage entertainment and hands-on experiences at the booths.

"This year we wanted to offer festival goers more opportunities to not only watch cultural performances, but also learn and experience the cultures, themselves," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "So this year we will split time between having performances on stage and having more personalized demonstrations at each booth. We think people are going to enjoy the learning opportunity."

The first two weeks of the festival will also highlight performances of indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian culture. This Saturday's stage entertainment includes the opening ceremony at 6pm, Chamorro community at 6:30pm and 8:30pm, Carolinian community at 9:30pm, and Filipino community at 7:30pm. In addition, the festival will feature on-site preparation of a favorite island delicacy, roast pig.

"We're very grateful to our island cultural communities and our supporters for coming together to make this year's festival possible," said MVA Community Projects specialist Ryan Calvo, the event's lead coordinator. "We're going to have a great time! And even if there's a little rain, we invite everyone to grab their zories and umbrellas and still come out and enjoy the fun!"

The festival is sponsored by PDM Promoters, Team PDI, Division of Parks & Recreations, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, KWAW, Best Sunshine, International, Ltd., and Power 99. The festival will also include arts and crafts and ethnic cuisine. Admission is free. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The International Festival of Cultures begins on Aug. 20, 2016, at Paseo de Marianas, Garapan, and will feature hands-on demonstrations, live performances, arts and crafts sales, ethnic cuisine, and more.

TO PROVIDE MORE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

DCCA-DYS leverages resources with CNMI DOL

For the past three years, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs-Division of Youth Services, through the continued partnership with the Workforce Investment Agency under the CNMI Department of Labor, has been allocating approximately $40,000 for the Summer Youth Employment Training Program.

DYS administrator Vivian Sablan states that the leveraging of resources is to provide for additional opportunities for the youth in addition to funds readily available through the Workforce Innovative Opportunity Act Youth Program.

DCCA-DYS continues to provide such support to WIA through the Community Services Block Grant funded under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which serves the purpose of providing education, training, and employment opportunities for the vulnerable population.

This funding assistance provided employment training to about 82 youth participants distributed on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, which took place from Aug. 1 to 12, 2016.

For more information on the Community Service Block Grant, log onto www.dcca.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

GRANDVRIO RESORT SAIPAN
Welcome to enjoy fantastic buffet at our **"Tropicana Restaurant"** (2nd floor of Taga Tower)! Performance is available on Sunday Brunch.
"Seafood & Sushi night" dinner buffet every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. All you can eat and drink! Champagne, beers.
*** Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am * Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm *Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm *Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	8/1	8/2 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/3 Buffet Lunch $14 |*Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/4	8/5 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/6 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/7 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/8	8/9 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/10 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/11	8/12 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/13 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/14 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/15	8/16 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/17 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/18	8/19 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/20 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/21 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/22	8/23 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/24 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/25	8/26 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/27 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
8/28 **Sunday Brunch $22**	8/29	8/30 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	8/31 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)			

* *Our **"Dolphin"** restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu ($8~) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner ($35). "Spectacular Ocean view and Sunset!" Open time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order：8:30pm*
* ***"Starlight BBQ"** Dinner Buffet Location: Poolside Price: Reg. AD $39 CH: $19 (Local: AD $35/ CH $17) Business hrs: 6:00-9:00pm*
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The Crisis Counseling Program phases down

The Crisis Counseling Program, under the umbrella of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Community Guidance Center, would like to extend its sincerest thank you to the community for allowing it to come into their homes as it offered to provide emotional support.

It has been a privilege for the CCP team to be able to sit with the families and hear their stories and their concerns. CCP would also like to thank the Public School System and all the teachers who allowed CCP to conduct presentations in their classrooms even with their busy schedules.

CCP focused on the recovery of the community while offering emotional support to families who were affected by the disaster of Typhoon Soudelor.

The program's mission was to assist individuals and the community in recovering from the challenging effects of natural and human-caused disasters through the provisions of community based outreach services.

The CCP team has very much been a part of the different community events on island, in hopes to let the community know that emotional support is being offered by its team.

"It's been a year since Typhoon Soudelor devastated the island of Saipan, and CCP sees many improvements toward the island's full recovery. However, there are still homes that are not revived and families who are still seeking assistance as the program comes to a close, this Aug. 22, 2016.

CCP said it is transitioning its services over to the Community Guidance Center, Commonwealth Advocates for Recovery Efforts CNMI, and American Red Cross-NMI Chapter.

"We can't express enough just how much passion, commitment, and appreciation we have for this program and our island home. The Crisis Counseling Program, again, would like to thank every family and individual that has opened their doors, and the community who has welcomed us with gratitude and kindness. Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay!" CCP said in a statement. ***(PR)***

Proposed Guam FY '17 budget now available on OFB website

GUAM—Following a series of comprehensive budget hearings held over the course of two months, appropriations chair Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz filed Tuesday a substitute budget bill, unveiling a fiscal plan far different from Gov. Eddie Calvo's Fiscal Year 2017 Executive Budget Request.

Unlike the governor's aggressive revenue projections for the upcoming fiscal year, Cruz's 2017 "Cut, Cap, and Balance Plan" responsibly cuts $55 million in newly proposed spending without jeopardizing current operations, lowers the cap on GovGuam's debt ceiling, and commits to a balanced budget based on conservative revenue estimates and expenditures.

While the budget request originally proposed by Calvo projected exceptional economic growth, Cruz's substitute budget bill reflects realistic revenue projections and "moderate growth"—as forecasted by Guam's economic experts before the Committee on Appropriations earlier this month. Given the General Fund's cumulative deficit of nearly $120 million, Cruz notes that continued conservatism is necessary—resulting in decreasing the Governor's proposed General Fund revenues available for appropriation from $736.4 million to $681.2 million, or $55.2 million.

"Any budget that plans to spend more money than we can actually collect makes a promise we can't keep, and I think we all have had enough of that," said Cruz, who filed Substitute Bill No. 250-33 (COR) (SB250) Tuesday afternoon. "Taxpayers deserve a budget that makes sense, and that can't happen if we rely on revenue projections that seem to make things up."

Despite numerous budget requests above the appropriation levels originally presented in the governor's FY 2017 EBR, Cruz's proposal ensures that all agencies are provided with adequate funding to cover existing personnel and maintain status quo operations. Moreover, SB250 provides Calvo with extraordinary flexibility through both a lump sum budget and expanded transfer authority to address any unforeseen circumstances throughout the course of the coming fiscal year.

To protect future revenues from the crushing weight of new annual debt payments, Cruz's measure also lowers the cap on GovGuam's debt ceiling. With public debt at over $1.525 billion, the inclusion of Chapter 14 in SB250 reduces the government of Guam's debt ceiling—established by the Organic Act of Guam at 10 percent of the total assessed value of taxable real property—by redefining the assessed value from 100 percent to 90 percent of the appraised value. The chapter further ensures transparency in any future borrowing legislation by prohibiting the inclusion of language authorizing adjustments to the debt ceiling.

"Every dollar we borrow needlessly today is a debt our children and grandchildren owe to someone else tomorrow," said Cruz. "That keeps me up at night and it's up to us to say 'no more.'" ***(PR)***

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2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures
ENTERTAINMENT
5:00 p.m. Festival opens
6:00 p.m. Opening Ceremony
6:30 p.m. Chamorro Community
7:30 p.m. Philippine Community
8:30 p.m. Chamorro Community
9:30 p.m. Carolinian Community
Hands-on activities will be featured at cultural booths throughout the evening.
Celebrating the cultural diversity of the Northern Mariana Islands!
Live performances
Cultural demonstrations
Arts & Crafts
Cultural Food
August 20, 27, and September 3, 10, 17, & 24, 2016
5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

The Gitmo test for president

Being commander in chief is complicated. A case in point: the terrorist prison at Guantanamo Bay.

President Barack Obama isn't likely to keep his pledge to close it during his eight years in office. So he's trying to empty it. Monday, his administration announced its single biggest transfer of Guantanamo detainees — 12 Yemenis and three Afghans, who had been held for 14 years without trial — sent to the United Arab Emirates.

As Obama points out, Guantanamo has long been a recruiting tool for terrorists, a cash pit for taxpayers and a stain on our national honor.

But in Donald Trump's all-out war on terror, it's all so simple. Laws or constitutional principles don't matter. Ethics or morals are for the weak.

In his big terrorism speech Monday, he made clear that he would keep Guantanamo open and vowed to capture "high-value targets." He has said he wants to bring back waterboarding and worse, though he later said he wouldn't order the military to violate international laws against torture.

And last week, he said it'd "be fine" to try U.S. citizens suspected of terrorism at the Guantanamo military tribunal, never mind our fundamental legal rights or that it would be illegal without an act of Congress. The tribunal has been flawed. The five alleged co-conspirators in the 9/11 attacks were charged four years ago, but no trial date has been set. So why would we consider it for Americans?

Trump will reportedly get his first classified intelligence briefing as a presidential candidate on Wednesday, so maybe he'll start realizing how complex national security is. Or maybe not, given how little he seems to have learned during the campaign.

Then-President George W. Bush opened the Guantanamo detention center at the U.S. naval base in Cuba in January 2002 after the Sept. 11 attacks and the subsequent war in Afghanistan. The population at Guantanamo peaked at 684 in June 2003. When Obama took office, 242 detainees remained. The latest transfer leaves 61, including 20 others who have been approved for release.

But releasing them has its own pitfalls. Officials said in March that of 532 detainees let go under Bush, 111 were confirmed to have conducted more terrorist activities and that of 144 released under Obama, seven have returned to terrorism.

It would be better to close it and house the remaining detainees in U.S. prisons, but Republicans and some Democrats in Congress won't allow it.

Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton supports Obama's plan to shutter Guantanamo, saying that it has "inspired more terrorists than it has imprisoned." Unless she has a friendlier Congress as president, she will have difficulty, too.

But at least she understands the limits of presidential power and the importance of upholding our principles.

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RELAX! DON'T YOU PEOPLE GET SARCASM?
TRUMP: USE "EXTREME VETTING" BAR UNAMERICAN AGENDAS
TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER MANAFORT
UKRAINIAN COOKIES
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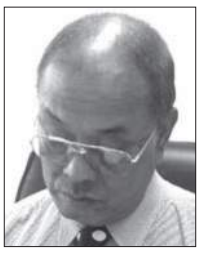
Review family pocketbooks

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

The cascading effects of a woefully bad economy can't hide family hardship here with failed punditry of suspect improvement. It's all nonsense! Has tourism improved exponentially?

In other words, the proof is in your wallet or family pocketbooks. The false hope is to have you clapping your hands for their teeny perceptual parade. In Chamorro it's called "asuntun estomagu" and please refrain from taking us as fools. We know our issues Full Square!

How do you justify that some 51 percent of NMI workers are still under the federal definition of "poverty income level" of less than $26K per year? It clearly shows that the economy is still very bad and isn't lifting family boats at all. Otherwise, most would be making more and would have been freed of poverty since recent past.

The scourge is made worse by the lack of salary raise for over 20 years. It boggles the mind how families have navigated their way through it all. But there's the cultural backstop of "communal sharing" that has helped most folks deal with the forced condition. Imagine if this is missing that could easily translate into ugly protests on the hill.

We wonder why does such condition exist for a majority of families here? It's a good question "we the people" must ask directly of the elite group seeking re-election this November. Have you done anything in stride to improve family income after more than 20 years of stagnancy or "Do-Nothing?" Is this why most folks live paycheck-paycheck or spend in advance by eating up their next two paychecks? Where has "solutions driven" gone on this most important family issue?

The scourge of familial hardship didn't spin out of a vacuum. It's the direct result of sheer negligence, lack of vision and leadership. "We the people's" livelihood is driven deeper into the ditch because none of them really cares about the wellbeing of villagers. They treat familial hardship as a leisurely walk in the park. The negligence isn't personal concoction. It's all in family pocketbooks that we live with daily!

NMI 'Gagament'

As a conservative, I advocate smaller government, less taxes and stifling policies, and an ultra-conservative on fiscal matters. It's the only path to returning freedom to the citizenry.

Until the shutter of the garment industry in the nineties, it was the only sector that was larger than the local government. After its closure, the NMI government recaptured its seat as the number employment industry once more.

The layer of what an uncle called "gagament" (government) kept piling up over the years. Today we have a republican form of gagament comprised of all three branches. It includes 29 legislators and their staff, two eggheads governing without a public mandate and their cabinet people, boards and commissions, superior and supreme courts and municipal governments and their staff. It comprises of more than 3,000 gagament employees!

What each citizen must begin questioning is the unusually huge size of gagament for a population of about 56,000 people. In brief, it boils down to our paying for each drone gagament employee's salary, per diem and airline tickets for boards and commissions, etc. Moreover, we pay dearly for a bicameral Legislature of more than $6-9 million per year piled by legislative delegations that rest in their comfortable nest of "elite culture" conveniently ditching the interest of the people. Does it matter to you the taxpayer?

It seems we pride ourselves in the layers of gagament that has petered out a long time ago but cushion its existence for nepotistic employment purposes. Is this right and do we continue feeding their wild habit to milk us the death?

For instance, the seven-member 902 team was each given daily per diem of $250 plus an airline ticket of $2,000 for their recent shopping spree at Honolulu's Hattie Mumu shop. It pans out to $5,250 for per diem for a total of $19,250. This doesn't include the DC trip. You add the trip of the Tinian guys and it sure should cost more than $60,000! What's the benefit to taxpayers?

With 3,000 gagament employees we should be able to see real efficiency in the delivery of public services. But it has deteriorated in more ways than one. And we the taxpayers are paying for their biweekly loot. Isn't it time we demand for real accountability? It's our taxes. Ai, da gagament lai!

On Connolly's

It's edifying having some healthy exchange of views on issues especially those raised in this column. Unfortunately, Mr. JB Connolly braved abstracting the concept of "elite culture" only to be trapped in self-deception what it entails. He ended up concocting a perceptual dog when the beast is about an elephant. Why does he sound like the Seven Blind Men?

He sees elite culture as "cultural," a sophomoric analogy that confirms he misses the point completely. Mind you, it's a dangerous concept that would completely eradicate the voice of "we the people" in favor of apathetic political demagogues. Why do you think I broke the beast down in "Dosage of Distance and Detachment?"It's a dangerous phenomenon that divides people into two classes: the elite and ordinary. Must be eviscerated!

Tax disposition is governed by a set of laws. To hurl the adolescent query whether I'd return BSI's tax payments is ridiculously ludicrous. Nah! I pray for more so that we could spare some to cushion the soon to be bankrupt Tinian Municipal Government, if not, already.

In a vicious contest of survival of the fittest, would you help your competitor knowing it would crush your existence before you blink for the second time? It's called "vision" your esteemed Sen. F. Borja and Biktot Hokog never had as to derail the long-term economic future of Tinian and Rota! It's all political braggadocio and expediency hardly the beneficiary of sober or deliberative discussion. Steer clear of this mindset!

Dusted in the air war

By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

Whether you're up against coral dust, tree pollen, or just regular ol' dusty dust, keeping household surfaces clear of the stuff can be a battle. I decided to enlist some automation for this fight.

There are dozens, if not hundreds, of electric air purifiers on the market. Naturally, various retailing websites provide consumer ratings and feedback about various models. Some models have tallied thousands of reviews, so this is apparently a lively industry.

Most of the purifiers that I'm aware of are essentially fans that blow air through a filter. These filters are often called "HEPA" filters, for High-Efficiency Particulate Air, which is a common reference to a standard for filtering capability. The world of HEPA ratings and specifications is a pretty involved one.

For example, a common specification with the purifiers I tried was a HEPA filter that removes 99.97 percent of particles down to a diameter of 0.3 microns. To put this in perspective for my context, I've read that dust measures 10 microns. I don't know how coral dust, a big deal in the islands, measures up. Anyway, I wish someone would just invent a dust filter, but I've not seen such a thing.

However, all of the purifiers that I tried did have pre-filters, which were less expensive than the main filters and serve to catch the bigger stuff (like, yes, dust) thus relieving some of main filter's burden.

There are other techniques to clean up the air, and these are often used in conjunction with the physical filtering. Many appliances use electronics to "ionize" the air, which, some credible sources claim, is an unhealthy thing because it can produce ozone, so you're on your own on that note. Some appliances use things like ultraviolet light to disinfect the air as it flows through them.

Here's one thing I found about filters: They can be expensive. The first air purifier I bought was in the medium-sized category, but to replace its array of filters was heading for over $200 a year. Oddly enough, though these expensive filters seemed to be getting plugged up all the time, the room was still gathering some dust. I suspect that a lot of the air was slipping by the filters and was being blown back into the room, whereupon it would land in the most remote of crannies, such as behind the books on the bookshelf. I gave up on that thing. I should probably give up on books, too, and simplify things all the way around.

Anyway, I then tried two models of smaller, desktop-sized air purifiers. Each model was well-designed but neither seemed adequate for anything but a really tiny room, so that was the end of that.

Since small didn't work, I decided to go big. I bought a beer-keg sized appliance that seemed to move as much air as a B-52 engine on takeoff. Unfortunately, it also sounded like a B-52 on takeoff.

The prices of the models I tried ranged from about $40 for the small ones to $150 for the biggest one, and they likewise ranged from (noise notwithstanding) being suitable for a small room up to being suitable for a large room. Of course, as noted, the filters themselves can be expensive, so the actual cost of the machine itself isn't the real story. I'll mention that some of these machines claim that their filters can be vacuumed clean.

I'll also mention that some purifiers are far more expensive than the ones I tried. If you want to spend $400 or more, there's no shortage of options.

Meanwhile, the HEPA filter specifications aren't the only specs out there. For example, the "Clear Air Delivery Rate" offers ratings for how quickly a purifier processes the air for tobacco smoke (that's one rating), dust (that's another rating), and pollen (yet another rating). The CADR ratings are usually easy to find but they apply to a purifier's maximum (i.e. LOUDEST) fan setting.

I asked my friends about this situation. The consensus is that there is no more dust these days than there was before, but we're just more inclined to notice it. It's just one weird consequence of sinking into middle age. Also, there seems to be a broader awareness that the air in the great indoors can have an effect on your health. Just about everyone I know has at least one air purifier, but nobody seems particularly enthusiastic about them.

Anyway, I decided to give things one last try. This last try is the Honeywell 17000-S. It's roughly the size of a heavy-duty office laser printer. It cost about $90. It is, mercifully, very quiet at its lower settings, it seems to move a meaningful volume of air, and the design seems good. Will this do the trick? I don't know, but, either way, I'm not trying another one of these things, so I am going to let the dust settle where it may.

Tips for preventing disease

By RUSS MASON, M.S.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

It's a fact: Many people in the commonwealth have cancer or pre-cancerous conditions.

There are other diseases also, particularly diabetes and heart disease; and they all fall under the banner of non-communicable diseases (NCD's). Once an individual develops one or more of these diseases, it begins a lifelong journey of heartbreak, treatment, and expense.

It doesn't have to be this way.

By doing a few simple things, you can prevent most of the above diseases, and live a longer and happier life.

I was in Sunleader a while ago and I saw a beautiful Chamorro woman with her adorable daughter. The woman was buying betel nut. I said to her, as kindly as possible, "You know, that stuff can kill you." She smiled and said, "I know."

As many people have pointed out, old habits die hard, especially when they are ingrained as part of the local culture.

As new data comes to light about betel nut, it causes, or contributes to, a wide variety of disease—especially oral cancer.

As one dentist told me, "Once I see lesions in a patient's mouth, I know that they have cancer."

What baffles me is that some people would rather die than change their ways. It's called "suicide on the installment plan." It doesn't have to be this way.

If an individual does a few simple things, most of the above diseases can be prevented. It's not that hard, but it does require a little determination.

First, eliminate sugar from your diet. This means soft drinks, candy, ice cream, and all of the other sweet things we love.

Sugar is poison, and it can kill you if you eat too much. Sugar depresses the immune system, contributes to inflammation and contributes to a wide variety of diseases—most notably diabetes and cancer.

I am not suggesting that you eliminate sugar entirely, but to be mindful of the amount you take in. If you want a Coke, drink a little and then put it back in the refrigerator. One can per day probably won't hurt you.

Baking soda (such as Arm & Hammer):

Of all the things you can do, this is one of the best, and least known.

Dissolve 1/2 tsp of baking soda in a glass of cool water and then drink it. This is a very healthy thing to do. Why?

Most of the foods we eat are acid-forming, and all diseases thrive in an acidic environment. The acid-forming foods are meat, breads, noodles, rice, and other starchy fare. Sugar is also acid-forming.

Baking soda is alkaline, and can neutralize the acid in your body. It is best to drink the baking soda mixture on its own—not immediately after a meal. Once your body becomes alkaline, it also becomes more disease-resistant. That is, your risk of getting sick drops significantly.

There are also alkaline-forming foods, such as celery and lettuce, and they are helpful also. One doctor suggested eating a stalk of celery before eating a meal. This way, the alkaline celery will help to neutralize the acid in the stomach when you eat other foods.

Turmeric

This lowly spice has phenomenal curative properties and can go a long way to preventing cancer, especially when combined with some fresh black pepper.

In fact, it is the only known substance which can kill cancer stem cells; chemo won't do it. It is the cancer stem cells which keep the cancer alive in your body, and taking turmeric, with black pepper, will kill them. (There are many published scientific studies on this, by the way).

The ratio is this: 1 tablespoon of turmeric and ¼ tsp of fresh black pepper. The pepper acts as a catalyst to turmeric's anti-cancer properties. You can add more of each, but keep the ratio consistent.

You can also make a hot drink with the above mixture, or add it to cooked rice, or even to your favorite soup. There is nothing healthier or more anti-cancer than turmeric with black pepper added.

And yet, people here eat a lot of white rice. Just think—adding turmeric and black pepper will not only make the white rice tastier, it will help to prevent cancer

All of the above suggestions are easy, and I hope you will consider them.

It is wise to cut down on all processed foods also. Instead of buying canned meat, buy a dozen eggs or some chicken quarters. Each costs around $2.50, and the eggs and the chicken are far more healthy than anything from a can. And, as you probably know, anything canned is full of chemicals; it also poses a health risk if eaten regularly.

It would be extremely naïve of me to thing that once someone reads this they will immediately change their eating habits. Yes, old habits die hard.

Therefore, what I encourage you to do is to begin gradually. That is, to start tapering off the bad foods (canned meat, for example) and begin to eat fresh food—if it's only one meal per week.

Get a box of baking —it's very inexpensive—and starting taking 1/2 tsp in a glass of water every day. It takes about one minute, and is one of the best things you can do if you want to stay healthy. It works wonders.

Cut way back on your sugar intake, and find other things to snack on, such as nuts, which are good for you. Eating a handful of peanuts is far healthier than eating a candy bar; plus they are nutritious. The healthiest nuts are walnuts, but they are also expensive.

Turmeric with black pepper is a very good idea, but not everyone has turmeric powder on their kitchen shelf. However, if you have cancer, or other pre-cancerous condition, I urge you to get some powdered turmeric, add some fresh black pepper, and start mixing it into your cooked rice or soups.

If you're "on chemo" keep taking it, but add the turmeric and black pepper. As the Jewish mother once said, "It wouldn't hurt!"

Saving your own life, and that of your kids, ought to be a priority for everyone. But, as I said, old habits die hard, and many of our beautiful locals will continue to get sick and die, unnecessarily.

It doesn't have to be this way. You can prevent almost all disease; it just takes a little will-power.

POEM

Spaced out sarcasm from spin meister Trump

By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

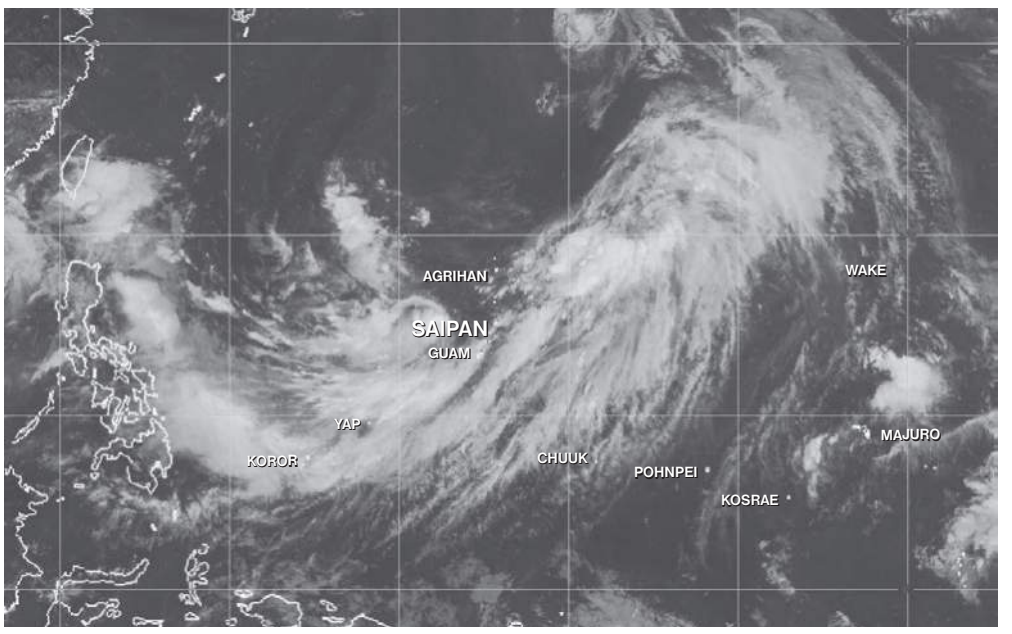
Oh my what painful RNC hair pulling consternation
as everyday Trump's careening campaign steers
his staffers filled with fear and fraught with frustration
from silly to sick sarcasm shifting nonsensical gears
Oh the Conservative trepidation at every twist and turn
as their views and values he seems unable to discern
and puts his foot in his motor mouth unable to learn
when common sense comes in sight he tends to spurn
meanwhile from red to blue state throughout the nation
Trump stymies himself in a downward spiraling situation
and even though it might be billions of light years away
for the future of humanity what could possibly be worse
heaven's galaxies please forbid, count your lucky stars today
than to find another Donald J. Trump in a parallel universe

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy and breezy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 20 to 25 mph.	Partly sunny and breezy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:56 AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Invest area 99W, about 300 miles west of the Marianas near 15N141E, is producing intense convection with plenty of lightning indicated near the apparent center. Over the Marianas…showers are drying up on radar to the west and southwest of the islands. Fresh to strong winds continue over the Marianas waters, and seas have decreased to 8 to 9 feet at the buoys. Models are showing another surge in the monsoon flow today, with winds hitting 30 mph at times before dropping back to 25 mph tonight and Friday. Will keep scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms, as the passage of 99W northwest of the islands should result in more showers again later today and tonight. The rest of the forecast is essentially unchanged, with showers decreasing to isolated for the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Strong thunderstorms	77 / 83 °F
Palau	Partly sunny	81 / 88 °F
Yap	Strong thunderstorms	81 / 87 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	80 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Mostly cloudy	74 / 86 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	76 / 85 °F
Majuro	Heavy rain	80 / 85 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Morning clouds	46 / 56 °F
Beijing	Decreasing cloudiness	73 / 87 °F
Hong Kong	Heavy rain	80 / 86 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	74 / 82 °F
London	Morning clouds	60 / 74 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	62 / 85 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	80 / 87 °F
Melbourne	Afternoon clouds	47 / 60 °F
Miami	Partly sunny	79 / 87 °F
New York	Partly cloudy	74 / 87 °F
Osaka	Partly sunny	78 / 94 °F
Paris	Partly sunny	61 / 76 °F
Pusan	Partly cloudy	80 / 91 °F
Rome	Broken clouds	66 / 87 °F
Salem	Sunny	67 / 103 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	57 / 69 °F
Seoul	Mostly cloudy	78 / 91 °F
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	77 / 86 °F
Washington, DC	Partly sunny	72 / 89 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
2:13 AM	LOW TIDE	0.84 Feet
7:33 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.0 Feet
2:30 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.22 Feet
9:00 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.0 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Monday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:35 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	7:18 PM	6:31 AM
Saturday	8:06 PM	7:29 AM
Sunday	8:53 PM	8:26 AM
Monday	9:41 PM	9:24 AM
Tuesday	10:30 PM	10:23 AM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
OZ6063	5:15pm	8:35pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ6053	10:35am	4:05pm	4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Takai completes WIA training at DPW

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Workforce Investment Agency Summer trainee Britney C. Takai shows off her certificate while posing with Department of Public Works staff led by DPW Secretary James Ada, left.

Workforce Investment Agency Summer trainee Britney C. Takai served as an administrative assistant trainee for the Division of Administrative Services under the Department of Public Works over the summer.

According to administrative services director Peter Camacho, Takai was trained for a wide range of administrative and personnel related procedures within the division.

Camacho stated that the Administrative Services Division is responsible with the oversight of six divisions within the Department of Public Works along with maintaining and updating the departments policies and regulations; personnel management; procurement; public relations; program development; budget analysis and preparation.

Takai operated office machines and was responsible for directing calls to the appropriate divisions.

"She was a big help to updating our filing system either manually or by using a computer. She participated in routing documents and correspondences, compiling, copying, sorting, and filing records and other related office documents as assigned. Ms. Takai was also communicating with customers, employees and other individuals by answering questions, disseminating or explaining information and forwarding complaints to immediate supervisor," Camacho said.

To date, the Administrative Services Division continues to control and monitor all expenditures and guidance and support to various divisions within DPW in the area of administrative policies and regulations and other personnel needs.

This training was made possible through the Workforce Investment Act enacted in August 1998 to develop a more cohesive workforce development system that will provide easy access to services and information for individuals and businesses.

WIA, under the CNMI Department of Labor, continues to increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants, and increase occupational skill attainment by the participants, and, as a result, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the local workforce. ***(PR)***

Tinian DYS summer youth empowerment camp celebrates finale

The Tinian Division of Youth Services Summer Camp, in collaboration with the Tinian Mayor's Office, recently celebrated the close of its summer camp which served 65 youth participants ages 5 to 13 years old.

Camp participants engaged in various activities including arts/crafts, health and nutrition, life skills, ecosystem, swimming, cooking, and coconut frond weaving. The participants were also joined by volunteers from the PSS AmeriCorps program, the National Honor Society, and the WIA Summer Employment Training Program participants.

According to DYS administrator Vivian Sablan, the success of the camp would have not been possible without the tireless partnership efforts of the Tinian Mayor's Office and Tinian Youth Center staff, Department of Lands & Natural Resources, Tinian Municipal Council, Teen for Teen Center, Northern Marianas College, Public School System, and the Tinian DCCA.

The culminating event was held last Friday and was celebrated along with the open house event for the Tinian Youth Center. ***(PR)***

Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

Call for Nominations

2016 GOVERNOR'S HUMANITIES AWARDS

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is accepting nominations for the 2016 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories:

- **Research and Publication in the Humanities;**
- **Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices;**
- **Preservation of CNMI History; and**
- **Outstanding Humanities Teacher** (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).

A fifth category, **Lifetime Achievement**, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and **are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 14 October 2016.**

Awards will be presented during the Governor's Humanities Awards which will be held in conjunction with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's 25th anniversary dinner/fundraiser at the Pacific Islands Club on Friday evening, 28 October 2016.

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785.

Did you know the first olive ridley sea turtle recovered in the CNMI was found stranded dead in discarded fishing net last month?

Ghost nets can kill turtles floating in the open ocean when they become entangled in it. If you witness a fishing net floating free in the ocean, please report its location by calling the DFW Enforcement hotline at 285-2287.

To report sick, injured, dead or disoriented turtles please call our stranding hotline at
287-8537 (C-TRTLES)

CNMI turtles are a shared community resource connecting our people's past with our people's future. Help us to conserve sea turtles so future generations may be able to enjoy them also.

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE · CNMI ·

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-020

CHALAN KANOA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Chalan Kanoa Drainage Improvement Project, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **August 5, 2016** at Departmnet of Public works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must b e made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Workat the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Deaprtment of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capital Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 23, 2016**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 6, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the proepective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-020"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **September 9, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **September 9, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 9, 2016** and must be received no later than **September 20, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 23, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on **September 9, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission**. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred Dollars (US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-021

KAGMAN ROAD ANTI-SKID, SAIPAN, CNMI

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Kagman Road Anti-Skid, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after August 12, 2016 at Departmnet of Public works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must b e made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Workat the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Deaprtment of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capital Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 30, 2016**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 8, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the proepective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-021"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 13, 2016. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **September 13, 2016.** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 13, 2016** and must be received no later than **September 22, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 25, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on **September 13, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred Dollars (US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Local boy makes it big in food industry

Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef de cuisine Inas Hocog was just a simple Rota boy who had big dreams.

When asked how his passion for cooking developed, Hocog said he got it from watching his mother. "It started simply from hanging around my mom as a young boy. I was always asking what she was doing and why?"

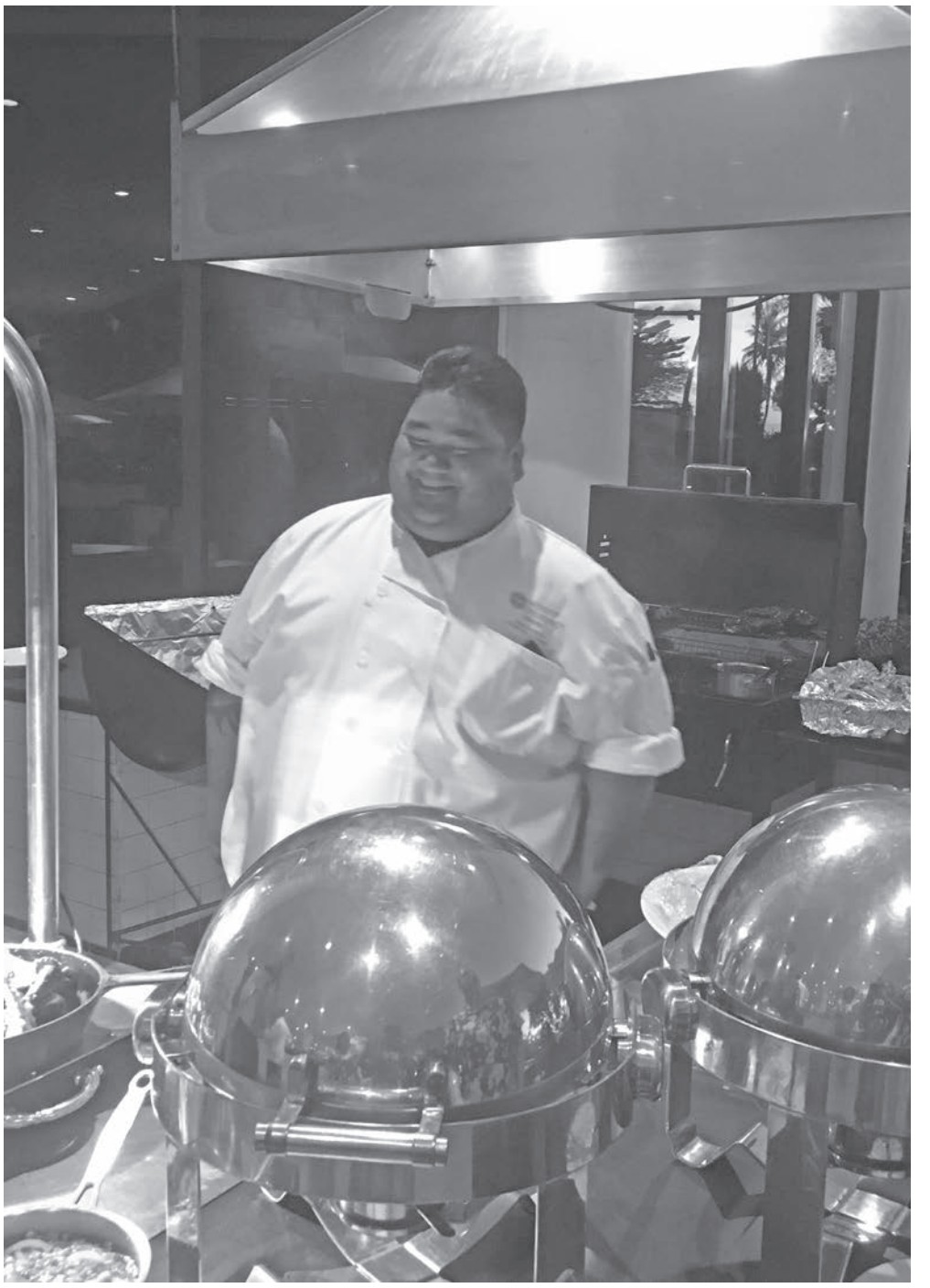
When Hocog was a senior at Rota High School his interest in food did not subside. "I went on to seek higher education in San Diego. It was there where I took my schooling full steam ahead and at the same time began my first cook job as a line/short order cook at a Hawaiian L&L."

After working in six kitchens in a span of a decade, he is now an executive chef de cuisine at one of the premier hotels on island.

Hocog attributes his success as a chef by learning from other chefs that he has worked with through the years—the first and most important one being his mother.

"Other chefs who have greatly influenced me are chef Joe Orate, my mentor from culinary school; chef Keoni Simmons, who gave me my first line cook job; chef John Zamurra and chef Cesar Avila, who saw a sous chef in me and put me through the rigors and reward of creating a restaurant from scratch; and lastly chef Allan Rast, who exposed me to the finesse and finer things in this career choice."

Hocog's passion for cooking stems from the fact that it simply comes naturally to him. "I find it gratifying when patrons are satisfied with a meal that I have prepared. There are no words to describe the joy that I find in my chosen career." ***(Joan L. Taitano)***



JOAN L. TAITANO

Chef de cuisine Inas Hocog, a local island boy from Rota, beams as he talks about the upcoming Brazilian barbecue night— Churrasco—at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

ARC's Club 200 set for Oct.15

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter's 27th Annual Club 200 is scheduled for Oct. 15 at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

The event will feature a super hero theme that pays tribute to everyone in our community who helped others following Typhoon Soudelor. Tickets are $100 in advance and $125 at the door. Tickets include dinner, drinks, live entertainment, and a chance to win amazing door prizes.

For more information on Club 200 or how you can volunteer, contact the local Red Cross chapter at 234-3459.

The CNMI chapter was chartered on October 8, 1978. The first chairman was Gilbert C. Ada, who served for six years.

During these early years the Guam Chapter assisted the CNMI chapter in development of its services. In 1986, after a reorganization plan was implemented, a new six-member board of directors was appointed led by then senator Juan "Pan" Guerrero. Under new leadership, a chapter headquarters was set up in a war-damaged Japanese power plant near the Saipan International Airport. Currently the chapter has four paid staff members and a board of directors of 19 members.

The chapter is responsible for services on the islands of Rota, Tinian, and Saipan as well as the Northern Islands. ***(PR)***

GCA welcomes new students, faculty

JOAN L. TAITANO

Roby Pamintuan, 2006 Grace Christian Academy graduate, is now employed as a physical education teacher and youth pastor at the Navy Hill school.

Grace Christian Academy held an open house last Aug. 12 at its Navy Hill campus. Old and new students accompanied by their parents and guardians were welcomed by GCA board chair Rev. Raymond Kinsella.

According to Kinsella, "Parents are the God-ordained educators of their children. Therefore, partnering with the home is vital in order to produce vibrant, confident, loving students who excel in their academic pursuits in commitment to Jesus Christ."

GCA is also home to Grace Christian Assembly, which is affiliated with Assemblies of God. Both church and school are committed to giving a bible-based Christian education to the children enrolled.

For the past 30 years, GCA has equipped and trained many students. One example of how GCA could positively impact a young person's life is through 2006 alumnus Roby Pamintuan, who is now employed as a physical education teacher and youth pastor at the school and the church, respectively.

Pamintuan said, "As a student of GCA from K4 to 8th grade, their biggest contribution to me was their diligent and successful efforts in laying the foundation of my core beliefs and values."

Even though Pamintuan has been living in Canada for the past eight years, he felt compelled to move back to Saipan and serve as a faculty at GCA.

"I moved back to Saipan to serve as the youth pastor of GCA because of the unique opportunities that were offered to me to live out God's calling and purpose for my life, as well as to equip myself for future ministry." ***(Joan L. Taitano)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055
Tel.: (670) 236-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE
USED VEHICLES
BENJAMIN T. MANGLONA
ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority will sell at Public Auction, August 19, 2016 at 3:00 PM used vehicles at the Benjamin T. Manglona, Rota International Airport. The vehicle listing is as follows:

1.	1994 Nissan Pathfinder	License Plate No. 24-90
2.	1995 Toyota P/U Truck	License Plate No. 20-32
3.	2002 Ford Explorer SUV	License Plate No. 34-10
4.	2005 Toyota Tacoma P/Up	License Plate No. 37-41
5.	2006 Nissan Frontier C/Cab	License Plate No. 38-61

The vehicles will each have a reasonable minimum bid cost. Bidders are requested to inspect the vehicles by contacting the Rota Airport Manager at telephone number 532-9497, Monday to Friday, 08:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The vehicles will be sold "As Is" and "Where Is" and without Warranty. The successful bidder is required to pay 20% down payment on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable at the Rota Airport Manager's Office, Rota International Airport within 5 calendar days from auction closing date. Bidder shall only remove the vehicle(s) from the airport premises upon full payment of bid price. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment and equipment. Payment shall be in cash, cashier's check, or money order payable to CPA.

Inquiries may be directed to the Procurement Officer, Mr. Alex C. Tudela at telephone number 237-6563.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Christopher S. Tenorio
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 I Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR LEASE
COMMERCIAL BUILDING
CHALAN KANOA, SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is seeking proposals from individuals or companies to lease Lot 014 H 08 and its improvements located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan near the U.S. Post Office. The total land area is 1,638 square meters and has a building area of 5,858 square feet.

Terms and Condition of Lease

Property is being leased "AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS". All Prospective Lessees are encouraged to visit the property prior to submitting a proposal and are asked to contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Loan Manager at 234-6245 ext. 306 to schedule an appointment. Prospective Lessee must rely on its own investigation and review of the physical, environmental, economic use, compliance, and legal conditions of the Property.

Proposal should include the following information:

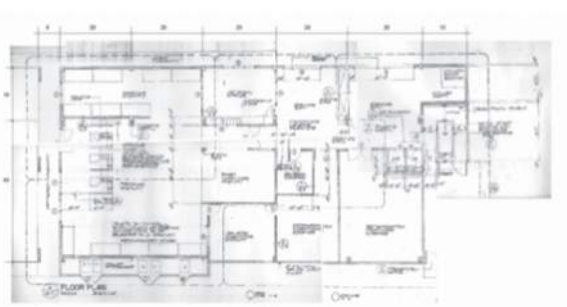
- Proposed lease price and term
- Name, address and telephone number of contact person.

Proposals entitled "PROPOSAL–CHALAN KANOA COMMERCIAL BUILDING" must be received by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 31, 2016 and should be addressed to:

Mr. Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director
Commonwealth
Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149
Saipan, MP 96950

Lease will be awarded to the individual or company with the offer most beneficial to CDA.

Building Sketch



The CDA reserves the right: (1) to cancel this Notice at any time for any reason (2) to accept or reject any and all proposals and (3) to request additional information prior to or upon the final selection of a Lessee.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055
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E-mail: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PARKING FACILITIES
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-017-16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is inviting proposals for the Management and Operation of the Saipan International Airport Parking Facilities. The contractor selected will manage the facility for a period of five (5) years with the option to extend the contract annually, up to a maximum of three (3) years at CPA's sole discretion.

The Proposal Package will be available for pick up at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport beginning August 05, 2016.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on Friday, August 19, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Saipan International Airport Terminal Departure Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All proposers are requested to attend.

Questions and/or clarifications shall be addressed during the pre-proposal conference. However, CPA will extend this opportunity to August 22, 2016 only by written request to the attention of the Executive Director by emailing to: cpa.receptionist@pticom.com; with copy to: atudela@cpa.gov.mp. No questions will be entertained after this date.

All proposals must be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Management and Operations of the Saipan International Airport Parking Facilities, CPA-RFP-017-16".
One original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, August 30, 2016, to the Office of the Executive Director at the aforementioned location.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Jose R. Lifoifoi
CPA Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-020

ROTA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Rota Water Supply Project, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the demolition of existing bldg. structure, fence, pipes, valves, including appurtenances, installation of new 6-inch, 8-inch, & 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, construction of new three wells bldg., chlorination building, booster pump building, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on August 25, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-16-020, Rota Water Supply Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 29, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, CUC Chief Engineer-Water/Wastewater-john.riegel@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant– marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-021

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE POWER POLES

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from FEMA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$100.00** for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-16-021, Supply & Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles"* to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 21, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 6, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joseph Crisostomo, CUC Power Division, Purchasing Technician via email address- joe.crisostomo@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

MCS holds student activities fair with new STUCO officers

Over 200 middle school and high school students participated in Mount Carmel School's Student Activities Fair held last Wednesday, Aug. 17. Held at the start of every school year and sponsored by Student Council, the fair highlights the many extracurricular activities available at the school. Throughout the fair, middle school and high school students used the booths of sponsoring clubs and organizations in order to learn more about the various activities and to sign up for those that interest them.

This year's fair included booths from the school's athletic teams, Math Court, Mock Trial, the National Speech and Debate Association, Red Cross Club, Theatre Club, and a new club, "Gamers Uknighted," a club for gamers whose name is a nod to the school's mascot. Now that clubs and organizations are up and running, they will shift their attention to the upcoming Student Leadership Retreat, in which all activities for the year will be planned out.

The students were very excited about the many activities available to cater to the diverse interests of students. As Jonelle Toskas, a junior, puts it, "I liked how there are more options this year." She added, "I've actually signed up for nine clubs!"

Fellow junior, Jeff Melchor, agreed and even went so far as to take the initiative to coordinate the school's participation in the International Thespian Society. "I want to try something new, and this is something that I've been thinking about doing for quite some time. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club promoted its upcoming productions, "The Lion King Jr." and "Dracula" at the Activities Fair. From left, Zeno Deleon Guerrero, Rosa Castro, and Quincy Chinen.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Students filled up the first floor hallway of the Maturana Building for the Activities Fair.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Fresh from their recent Junior Statesmen of America (JSA) summer program, Nathaniel Snodgrass, left, and Joshua Santos promote JSA at the Activities Fair.

Community project helps needy students

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bridge Capital, LLC's Vincent Bidez, Joe Guerrero, Tania Mesa, and Jordan Sundell join Micronesia Legal Service Corp. Marianas Office directing attorney Jane Mack help fill backpacks with supplies ready for distribution.

Every year, the Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services Corp. spearheads a project to help put school supplies into the hands of needy students. This project relies on community help. "I love coordinating the MLSC Back-to-School Project," said Jane Mack, directing attorney of the Marianas Office. "We have a generous community and a tremendous need, so helping to put these two together is an honor."

Tania Mesa and Jordan Sundell packing bags.

This year, the project received wide support in cash donations, in-kind donations, and volunteer help.

Bridge Capital, LLC donated both cash and volunteer help, who came to the Marianas Office and helped pack book bags for distribution. The Bridge Capital volunteers were Vincent Bidez, Joe Guerrero, Tania F. Mesa, and Jordan Sundell. Donations of in-kind supplies were given by MLSC board member Robert Torres and also Thomas and Rose Shweiger.

Cash donations were provided by members of the legal community and other friends, including Jesus C. Borja, Thomas E. Clifford, Jill Derickson, Deborah Fisher, and Braddock Huesman, Kathryn Fuller, Christopher Heeb, and Kyung Park Heeb, Maya Kara and Bruce Mailman, Claire Kelleher-Smith, Juan T. Lizama, David Lochabay, Jane Mack, Samuel Mok, Richard W. Pierce, William Satterberg, and Marcia K. Schultz.

"The 2016 project was a success," said Mack. "Thanks to everyone's generosity, we distributed 114 bookbags with school supplies in them to needy children from every school on Saipan."

MLSC is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation that provides free legal help to low-income people throughout Micronesia, including in the CNMI. "Our primary focus is being lawyers, providing legal help in civil cases, to poor people," said Mack, "but the context in which we are working is the larger goal of community re-development." The MLSC Back-to-School Project is a small part of that effort, to coordinate with community partners in trying to overcome barriers for poor children and to help those children by giving them the tools they need to succeed at their education. This year, MLSC and its community partners made the project a huge success. ***(PR)***

Pile of bags waiting to be distributed

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-022

LIFT STATION RENOVATION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Lift Station Renovation Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of the renovation and upgrade of the S-6, S-10, SR-1, and A-7 Sewer Lift Stations.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of wet wells, valve vaults, a bar screen and flow monitor vault, removal of existing pumps, pipes, fittings and appurtenances, installation of new pumps, guide rails, control panels, pipes and fittings, installation of a new fence and gate, the installation and operation of a temporary wastewater bypass system, and other related work.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 30, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.7, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

ONE (1) original and FIVE (5) hard copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-022, Lift Station Renovation"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 16, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.
Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 1, 2016** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, W/WW Chief Engineer via email address-john.riegel@cucgov.org, Nicolette Villagomez , W/WW Junior Engineer via email address-nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org, Birhen Martinez, W/WW Senior Engineer via email address-birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-018

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. *OMB Circular A-133*
2. *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
3. *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*

The date of contract award will be no later than September 15, 2016. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-16-018, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016"to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on September 9, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 26, 2016** to Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 with a copy to Joann Paraiso, CUC Acting Chief Financial Officer, via email address joanne.paraiso@cucgov.org and Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Nation

Trump shakes up staff, intent on finishing race on own terms

NEW YORK (AP)—Frustrated with his troubled candidacy, Donald Trump is hinging his presidential hopes on a risky bet: that the fiery populism and freewheeling style that won him the Republican nomination give him a better shot at the White House than uniting his party and rallying moderate voters.

Trump underscored that conviction Wednesday with a staff overhaul at his campaign's highest levels, the second shakeup in the past two months. The Republican nominee tapped Stephen Bannon—a combative conservative media executive with no presidential campaign experience—to serve as CEO of his White House bid.

Pollster Kellyanne Conway, who has known Trump for years and gained his trust during her brief tenure working for the businessman, will serve as campaign manager.

The moves are aimed in part at marginalizing campaign chairman Paul Manafort, a longtime Republican operative who pushed Trump to moderate his tone and improve relations with skeptical Republican officials. In breaking with that approach, Trump appears set on finishing the race on his own terms- win or lose.

Manafort's past work for a pro-Russian Ukrainian political party has also become a potential liability for Trump. The Associated Press reported Wednesday that Manafort helped the party secretly route at least $2.2 million in payments to a pair of prominent Washington lobbying firms.

While Manafort maintains his title, Trump allies made clear Bannon will be overseeing the campaign staff and operations.

"He believes he should stay true to what got him this far," said David Bossie, the leader of a pro-Trump super PAC. "It's essentially, 'dance with the one who brung ya.'"

Rarely do presidential campaigns undergo this level of tumult at this stage of the general election. Wednesday's announcements come less than three months before Trump's Election Day faceoff with Democrat Hillary Clinton, and roughly six weeks before early voting begins.

Driven out: Housing crisis looms in flood-stricken Louisiana

DENHAM SPRINGS, La. (AP)—With an estimated 40,000 homes damaged by deadly flooding, Louisiana could be looking at its biggest housing crunch since the miserable, bumbling aftermath of Hurricane Katrina a decade ago.

People whose homes were swamped by some of the heaviest rains Louisiana has ever seen are staying in shelters, bunking with friends or relatives, or sleeping in trailers on their front lawns. Others unable or unwilling to leave their homes are living amid mud and the ever-present risk of mold in the steamy August heat.

Many victims will need an extended place to stay while they rebuild. Countless others didn't have flood insurance and may not have the means to repair their homes. They may have to find new places altogether.

"I got nowhere else to go," said Thomas Lee, 56, who makes out a living as a drywall hanger—a skill that will come in handy. His sodden furniture is piled at the curb and the drywall in his rented house is puckering, but Thomas still plans to keep living there, sleeping on an air mattress.

Exactly how many will need temporary housing is unclear, but state officials are urging landlords to allow short-term leases and encouraging people to rent out any empty space.

"If you have a unit that's an old mother-in-law suite and you can rent it out, let us know," said Keith Cunningham, who heads the Louisiana Housing Corporation, the state housing agency.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, whose very name became a punchline during Katrina, said it will look into lining up rental properties for those left homeless and also consider temporary housing units.

California wildfire brings destruction and uncertainty

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (AP)—A ferocious wildfire had swallowed up many homes as it spread across 40 square miles of mountain and desert east of Los Angeles. Exactly how many, however, and to whom they belonged, remained uncertain.

Firefighters were faced with the difficult task of tallying that damage while still battling the huge, unruly blaze.

That left evacuees in a cruel limbo, forced to spend another night wondering whether anything they owned was still intact.

They included Shawn Brady, who had been told by a neighbor that flames had raged down their street. But he was waiting for official word.

"What I've been told is that flames are currently ripping through my house," said Brady, a dockworker who lives on the outskirts of the evacuated town of Wrightwood with his mother, sister and a dog.

"I'm trying to remain optimistic," Brady said as he sat outside a shelter for evacuees in Fontana. "It's the not knowing that's the worst."

San Bernardino County fire officials could only confirm that dozens of structures had burned, and that big numbers are likely.

"There will be a lot of families that come home to nothing," county Fire Chief Mark Hartwig said Wednesday after flying over a fire scene he described as "devastating."

"It hit hard. It hit fast. It hit with an intensity that we hadn't seen before," he said.

Firefighters had at least established a foothold of control of the blaze the day after it broke out for unknown reasons in the Cajon Pass near Interstate 15, the vital artery between Los Angeles and Las Vegas. The fire was 4 percent contained on Wednesday.

The California Highway Patrol planned to reopen I-15 late Wednesday night, while the southbound side remained closed.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIREFIGHTING (ARFF) BUILDING RENOVATIONS
Project No. CPA-TA-003-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for renovations to the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) Building at the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualification statements must be submitted in writing and mailed to Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio, Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, September 9, 2016.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

Date: August 10, 2016

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
CAR RENTAL BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT
CPA-SA-001-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management (CM) services for the replacement of the roof and miscellaneous improvements to the car rental building at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Project No. CPA-SA-001-13, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Scope of Work (SOW) includes overall construction management services for the duration of the project. Details are available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualification statements must be submitted in writing and mailed to Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio, Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, September 2, 2016.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Overall CM experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands – 30 points;
2. CM experience related to airport projects; – 30 points;
3. Level of proficiency in performing CM services promptly; and level of experience with the local and federal regulations and requirements; – 15 points;
4. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of CM work experience, firm's ability to perform the services and the firm's professional integrity and competence – 15 points; and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable – 10 points.

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified construction management firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

Date: August 10, 2016

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-018-16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) invites interested insurance brokers, licensed to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to submit proposals for providing Insurance Brokerage Services singularly or in partnership with others.

The Proposal Package and specifications is available for pick-up beginning **August 12, 2016** at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "**Proposal for Insurance Brokerage Services, Project No. CPA-RFP-018-16.**" One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, September 2nd, 2016**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the aforementioned location.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MULTI YEAR FINANCIAL AND
COMPLIANCE AUDIT SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CPA-RFP-019-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed cost proposal for auditing services for a period of three (3) fiscal years. The location and scope of work package is available beginning August 12, 2016 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interested proposers must submit one original and three copies of the sealed proposal. Only proposals from U.S. nationally recognized firms will be accepted.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, September 02, 2016, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Acting Executive Director

World

Diplomat's defection poses major PR problem for Pyongyang

TOKYO (AP)—The defection of a North Korean senior diplomat in London poses a major problem for Pyongyang on a number of fronts—not least of which is how to publicly respond.

As of Thursday, Pyongyang hadn't made a public statement about the defection. But when—or if—it does, its response will likely be ferocious and accusatory.

Seoul's Unification Ministry announced Wednesday that Thae Yong Ho, minister at the North Korean Embassy in London, has arrived in South Korea with his family and is under the protection of the South Korean government. Thae was the second-highest official in North Korea's embassy and is the most senior North Korean diplomat to defect to the South.

Seoul, which doesn't always divulge defections, was quick to seize on this one as evidence of growing dissent within the North's ruling elite.

Its Unification Ministry claimed Thae defected because of his disgust with the Kim Jong Un regime and worries about the future of his children. A spokesman for the ministry further said that the defection is a sign of weakening unity within the North's ruling class.

Extrapolations about the bigger significance of individual defections should be taken with a grain of salt.

Seoul and Pyongyang have strong political and propaganda motivations for the way they handle announcements about defections. Analysts generally agree there are no significant signs Kim Jong Un's regime is weakening. Moreover, previous defections of officials from the North have by and large been isolated incidents that did not lead to a chain of more choosing to flee.

Thae himself has not yet spoken in public about his motives and details about the context of his defection remain sketchy.

Defectors are referred to by the North in the harshest of terms. "Human scum" is a common epithet, along with "criminals" or "traitors." Pyongyang often accuses the South of tricking or paying its citizens to defect, or claims that they have simply been kidnapped.

In April, 13 North Koreans working at a North Korean-operated restaurant in China defected to South Korea in the largest group defection since Kim Jong Un took power in late 2011.

The North responded furiously to the South's account of the flight of the restaurant workers, alleging repeatedly that the women - 12 waitresses and their manager - were tricked into thinking they were being transferred to work at another restaurant in Malaysia.

Rights group: More than 17K killed in Syrian state jails

BEIRUT (AP)—The young Syrian activist was beaten, prevented from going to the toilet and saw her cellmates taken for rounds of whipping when she was held for more than a month in several government detention facilities.

Still, Lama is considered lucky, as more than 17,000 detainees have died in the government's custody over the past five years as a result of torture, diseases and other causes, according to a report released Thursday by the London-based Amnesty International.

The report, titled "'It breaks the human," includes interviews with 65 torture survivors who described abuse and inhuman conditions in security branches operated by Syrian intelligence agencies and in Saidnaya Military Prison, near Damascus.

It said common methods of torture included forcibly contorting the victim's body into a tire and flogging on the soles of the feet. The authorities also used electric shocks, rape and sexual violence, the pulling out of fingernails or toenails, scalding with hot water and cigarette burns.

"The catalogue of horror stories featured in this report depicts in gruesome detail the dreadful abuse detainees routinely suffer from the moment of their arrest, through their interrogation and detention behind the closed doors," said Philip Luther, director of Amnesty International's Middle East and North Africa program.

"This journey is often lethal, with detainees being at risk of death in custody at every stage," he said. He urged the international community to bring these abuses to the top of the agenda in talks with both the government and armed groups.

The abuses date back to the start of the Syrian uprising against President Bashar Assad in March 2011. The government's harsh crackdown on dissent and the rise of armed opposition groups eventually ignited a civil war that has killed more than 250,000 people, displaced half the country's population and generated more than 4.8 million refugees.

UN launches independent probe into South Sudan rampage

JUBA, South Sudan (AP)—The United Nations secretary-general is launching an independent investigation into allegations that U.N. peacekeepers did not respond to prevent multiple cases of abuse and sexual violence against civilians and foreigners in South Sudan's capital.

Ban Ki-moon's spokesman said late Tuesday that the U.N. chief is alarmed by reports of the July 11 attack on a compound popular with foreigners in Juba. The Associated Press this week reported that South Sudanese troops went on a nearly four-hour rampage through the compound in one of the worst targeted attacks on aid workers in the country's three-year civil war.

Several witnesses told the AP that soldiers shot dead a local journalist while forcing the foreigners to watch, raped several foreign women, singled out Americans, beat and robbed people and carried out mock executions.

Separately, several witnesses also told the AP that U.N. peacekeepers in Juba did not stop the rapes of local women by soldiers outside the U.N.'s main camp last month. The violence came days after fighting erupted in Juba between opposing army factions.

The U.N. chief "urges, once more, the government of South Sudan to investigate these human right violations and to prosecute those involved in these unspeakable acts of violence," his spokesman said in a statement.

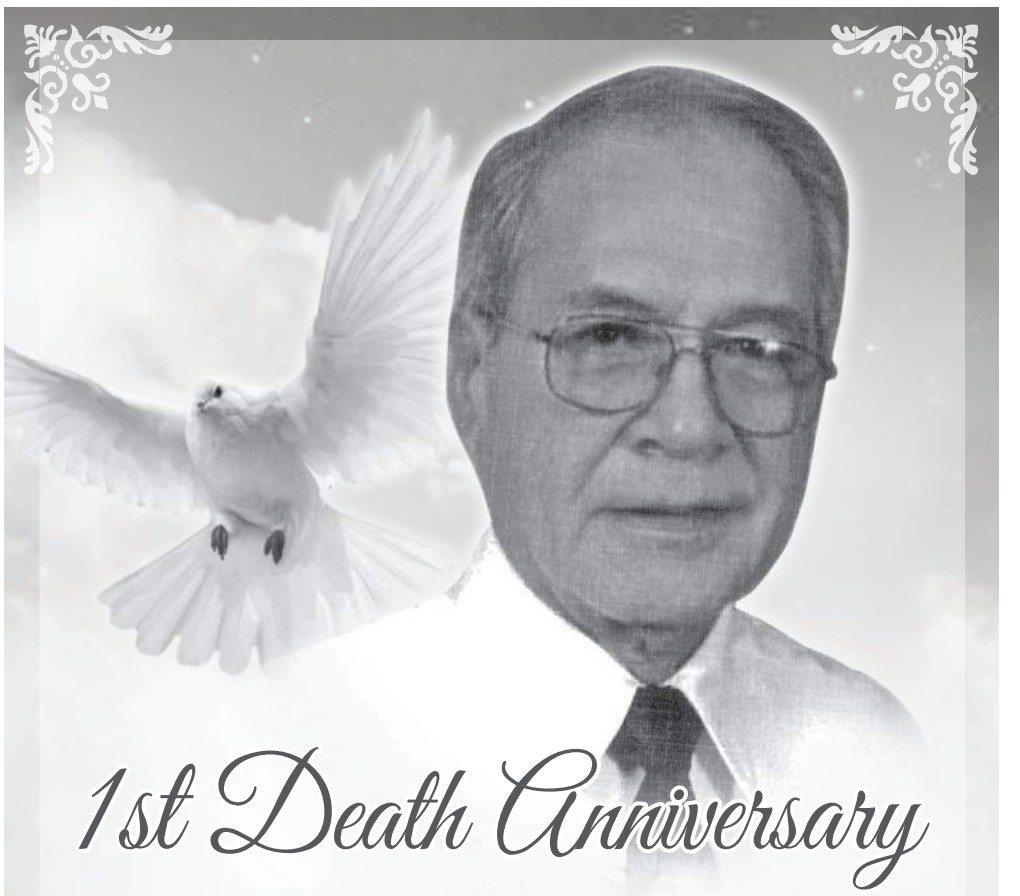
WORLD BRIEFS

Manila will not raise sea row with China at ASEAN meeting

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said he will not raise long-simmering maritime disputes with China at a meeting of Southeast Asian nations in Laos next month, preferring to talk quietly with Chinese officials. "I will only bring the issue when we are together face to face," he told reporters late Wednesday night. "Because if you quarrel with them now and you claim sovereignty, make noise here and there, they might not just even want to talk." In July, a Hague-based arbitration tribunal ruled heavily in the Philippines' favor in a case challenging China's claims and aggressive actions in the South China Sea. China ignored the decision and continued to block Filipino fishermen from a disputed shoal and build new islands.

Glass-coated kite string kills 3 people in India's capital

NEW DELHI (AP)—Indian police say three people, including two children, have died after their throats were slashed by glass-coated kite string used in competitions to bring down the kites of rivals. A 3-year-old girl riding with her parents in a car had her head out of the sunroof when her throat was cut by a kite string, her uncle said Wednesday. The other victims were a 4-year-old boy who was also looking out of the sunroof of a car, and a man who fell off a motorbike after his throat was cut by a string and it became tangled around his neck. The man, Jafar Khan, suffered a fatal head injury, said his father, Ayub Khan. The deaths occurred in New Delhi on Monday, which was India's Independence Day, when many people fly kites to celebrate.



1st Death Anniversary

We thought of you today, but that is nothing new;
We thought about you yesterday and days before that too.
We think of you in silence, often speak your name.
All we have are memories and your picture in a frame.
Your memory is a keepsake from which we'll never part.
God has you in His arms, we have you in our hearts.

In Loving Memory of

†Gregorio (Greg) Songao Calvo

Please join us in prayers as we remember our beloved on the **1st Anniversary** of his life in Heaven.
Mass of intent will be celebrated daily at 6 am at Kristo Rai Church beginning Friday, August 19 through August 27, 2016.

With humble and sincere appreciation for your presence, thoughts and prayers,

Evelyn Pangelinan Calvo and Children

Life & Style

DeGeneres defends herself after posting photo with sprinter

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres says she's not racist after receiving backlash on social media for posting an edited photo of herself riding on the back of Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt.

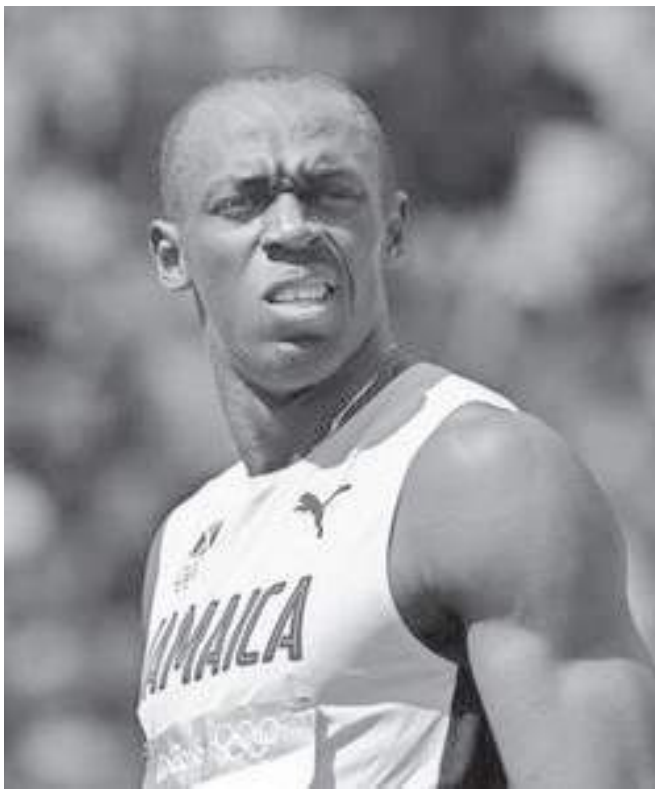
The talk show host said Tuesday on Twitter that she's "highly aware of the racism that exists in our country" but that's "the furthest thing from who I am."

DeGeneres posted the photo Monday with the caption: "This is how I'm running errands from now on."

The image of a white woman riding a black man was criticized by many users on social media.

The original photo of Bolt smiling while running went viral following his gold medal win in the 100-meter dash.

The comedienne frequently posts photos of herself edited into topical moments and scenes from popular films and TV shows.



AP

Jamaica's Usain Bolt competes in a men's 200-meter heat during the athletics competitions of the 2016 Summer Olympics at the Olympic stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2016.

British singer Adele postpones Phoenix concert due to cold

PHOENIX (AP)—A bad cold has prompted British singer Adele to postpone her sold-out concert Wednesday night in Phoenix.

The multiple Grammy Award-winner says she pushed herself too hard Tuesday night at Talking Stick Resort Arena in downtown Phoenix.

Adele says in a somewhat raspy voice on her website that fans hearing it know Wednesday's show "wouldn't be very good."

She adds: "I'm really, really sorry. I've had a cold for a couple of days and I've been pushing through it."

Adele's next scheduled world tour shows are Saturday and Sunday at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

She told her Phoenix fans in Wednesday's video she will reschedule the postponed show.

She says: "I will come back and I will smash it for you."

NPR ending online comments

AP

In this April 15, 2013 file photo, the headquarters for National Public Radio (NPR) in Washington.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NPR's comments section is going off the air.

National Public Radio announced Wednesday that comments on NPR.org will be disabled beginning Aug. 23. The feature has been part of the site since 2008.

Scott Montgomery, NPR's managing editor for digital news, says the news organization made the decision because NPR's audience is more engaged on social media. He says about 19,400 commenters were active in July compared with the more than 5 million on Twitter.

The news organization says it does not have any legal obligation to provide a comments section because NPR indirectly receives federal funding.

Other news organizations that have ended online commenting in the past include Reuters, Popular Science and The Week.

Eminem joins Drake on stage to quash rumored quarrel

AP

In this Jan. 31, 2010, file photo, Drake, Eminem, and Lil Wayne perform at the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

DETROIT (AP)—Drake and Eminem have knocked down rumors of bad blood by appearing on stage together at Drake's show in Eminem's hometown of Detroit on Tuesday night.

The rappers have been the topic of online conversation this month amid a beef between Drake and Joe Budden, who is a part of Eminem's Shady Records.

The Detroit Free Press reports (http://on.freep.com/2bmLBMe) Eminem rose from below the stage near the end of Drake's concert at Joe Louis Arena. The newspaper reports Eminem's rhymes on Drake's "Forever" were drowned out by a wildly excited crowd. Drake told the crowd Eminem was the "greatest rapper" to ever get on a microphone.

The two also posed for a picture posted on Eminem's Instagram .

West, Ward reprising Batman roles in animated movie

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Adam West and Burt Ward are reprising their respective roles as Batman and Robin, but they won't have to don tights this time around.

The actors are voicing the characters in the animated film "Batman: Return of the Caped Crusaders" out this fall. Julie Newmar will also return as Catwoman.

The movie's colorful style will recall the campy aesthetic of the 1960s live-action "Batman" TV series starring West and Ward.

A jokey trailer posted Wednesday on Entertainment Weekly's site featured West's Batman announcing that the dynamic duo will face "Joker, Riddler, Penguin and Catwoman on earth—and in space."

Man can't muster the energy to join digital dating world

DEAR ABBY: I am 32 years old and divorced my wife two years ago. Although I tried dating for a bit, it was a brave new world of online apps and profiles. It wasn't for me, and I became discouraged.

A year has gone by and female friends are telling me I need to get back out and date. I find the whole endeavor depressing and prefer to spend my time elsewhere and single. They say my decision to stay single is emotionally driven and I "deserve love."

My argument against dating is that I wasn't a good husband and I have no interest in devoting the time or energy to date in the scary and confusing world of the web. Can you settle this dispute so that we can stop the back-and-forth arguments?

DIVORCED AND DATELESS

DEAR DIVORCED AND DATELESS: I agree that opening yourself up to strangers can be scary. If you are not interested in meeting women on the internet, I won't force you, even though that's how many—although not all—relationships start these days.

Because that's not your cup of tea, there are other ways to meet nice women, among them getting out and participating in activities you enjoy or volunteering for a cause you believe in. Of course, that necessitates being open to having a relationship with someone and believing you deserve one. From the tone of your letter, I'm not sure you're there yet. Not having been a good husband the first time is no excuse if you have learned from your mistakes.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been dating for two years. He is in grad school. I failed out of community college. My lack of education stresses me out emotionally. I love him very much, and I see a future with him. But the idea of an architect and a community college dropout makes my heart ache. He deserves someone more on his intellectual level. He is originally from another state and this is one of the reasons why I haven't met his family.

I have thought about trying to get a degree to become a certified nursing assistant, but again there would be a gap in our professional levels. I'm afraid that when he does introduce me to his family they will convince him he's better off without me. Part of me believes it's true.

Please give me advice about what to do. I don't want to lose him, but at the same time, I want him to be happy.

UNEQUAL IN WISCONSIN

DEAR UNEQUAL: I can't help but wonder if you have ever spoken with someone who does career counseling. Some universities and community colleges have extension divisions that offer it. Part of the counseling involves aptitude testing, which could help you determine what you would be good at.

Being a nursing assistant is a respectable career that involves responsibility and people skills. If you feel drawn to it, then that's what you should pursue, and you should not feel embarrassed or have a need to apologize for it.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

CAN I RIDE IN THE GROCERY CART?
I THINK YOU'RE A LITTLE BIG FOR THAT NOW.
PLEASE?
ALL RIGHT. UP YOU GO.
OH BOY!
NOW RUN DOWN THE AISLE AND LET GO!

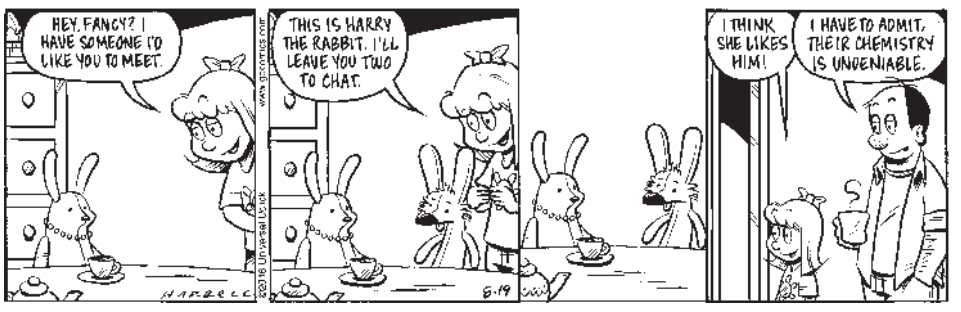
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

LIZ...WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME!
LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ LIZ...
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO CHANGE MY NAME TO BETTY

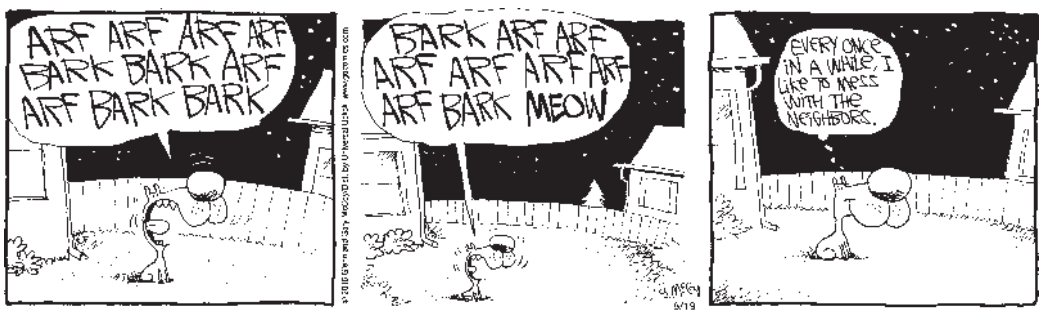
Adam@Home

By Bryan Basset


HEY, FANCY? I HAVE SOMEONE I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET.
THIS IS HARRY THE RABBIT. I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO TO CHAT.
I THINK SHE LIKES HIM!
I HAVE TO ADMIT, THEIR CHEMISTRY IS UNDENIABLE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


ARF ARF ARF ARF BARK BARK ARF ARF BARK BARK
BARK ARF ARF ARF ARF ARF ARF ARF BARK MEOW
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, I LIKE TO MESS WITH THE NEIGHBORS.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

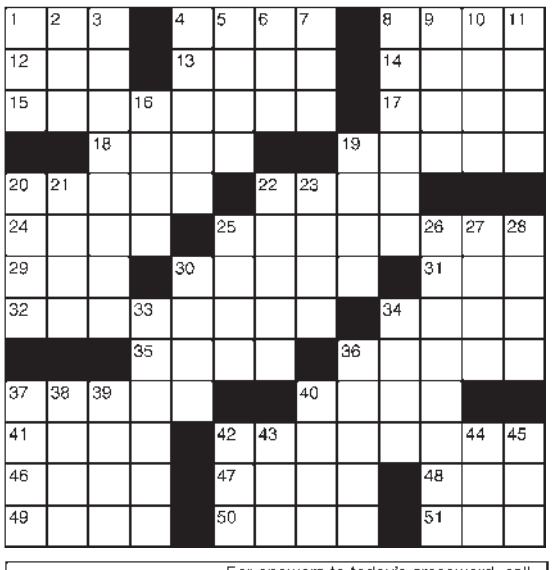
ACROSS
1 "Eureka!"
4 Own (up)
8 Challenge
12 NASA moon craft
13 Bailiwick
14 Sci-fi vehicles
15 Breakfast pastry
17 Grate
18 Assess
19 Aired again
20 Skips
22 IRS employees
24 Buddies
25 Cabbage salad
29 Online address
30 Continental cash
31 Lawyers' org.
32 Parking ticket dodger
34 Shortly
35 "— do for now"
36 Fancy neckwear
37 Hunger signals
40 "Garfield" dog
41 Concept
42 Car buyer's protection
46 Close
47 Dance move
48 Yoko of music
49 Regarding
50 Fender bender
51 "For shame!"

DOWN
1 Cleric's tunic
2 Haw preceder
3 Texas city
4 Almanac data
5 Perry's creator
6 Vast expanse
7 Witnessed
8 Coercion
9 Miles away
10 Activist Parks
11 "Baseball Tonight" channel
16 "Phooey!"
19 Charlotte and Norma
20 Piece of work
21 Artist Chagall
22 Pink hue
23 Oxen's burden
25 Select from a group
26 Round Table knight
27 "Peek-—!"
28 Long for
30 New newts
33 Operatic barber
34 "It's — to Tell A Lie"
36 Take as one's own
37 — colada
38 Citrus drinks
39 Spruced up
40 Portent
42 Leary's drug
43 Tours season
44 Reply (Abbr.)
45 Stir-fry pan

Solution time: 25 mins.

R	E	P	O	■	A	I	A	■	K	W	A	N
A	L	G	U	■	D	E	L	■	E	A	S	E
P	L	C	T	■	I	N	™	■	A	L	S	O
S	A	L	O	M	E	■	O	I	N	K	■	■
■	■	■	H	O	U	H	S	Q	U	A	H	E
C	I	V	I	C	■	H	A	S	■	W	A	D
C	M	I	T	■	F	■	X	■	L	A	I	D
M	S	G	■	S	I	N	■	G	A	Y	L	Y
B	O	N	U	S	R	O	U	N	D	■	■	■
■	■	E	T	R	E	■	B	U	Y	L	O	W
M	U	T	T	■	F	L	O	■	B	O	D	E
A	N	I	E	■	L	E	A	■	U	K	E	S
D	O	E	H	■	Y	E	'	■	G	I	S	T

Yesterday's answer 8-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matthew Perry, 47; Clay Walker, 47; John Stamos, 53, Bill Clinton, 70.

Happy Birthday: Partnerships will cause uncertainty, but may lead to changes that are long overdue. Don't fight the inevitable, but don't take what others tell you as gospel. Find out the facts and make your decisions based on what you believe will work for you. Stop putting everyone else first or you will come up short. Make things happen. Your numbers are 1, 9, 24, 27, 31, 39, 43.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't share personal information or anything about your financial situation. Including others in your plans could become taxing and troublesome. Accept the changes concerning work, and stay focused on what's ahead of you, not what's behind. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): An incident will have an effect on your attitude. Your positive outlook will surprise the people around you and open doors that will encourage you to try something new and exciting. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't sign up for something that you will have trouble finishing. Someone will take advantage of you if you can't say no. Family members may be difficult to handle. Don't let temptation lead you down the wrong path. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Try not to let fear keep you from engaging in a delightful experience with someone special. Be open to suggestions and willing to share, and the rewards will be outstanding. Love and romance will improve your life. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Showing responsibility will make a difference to the way people treat you. A change regarding your position or reputation will take place based on the way you deal with money matters. Show concern for others. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You can change the dynamics of an important relationship by the gestures and offers you make. Know what you are up against and offer incentives to counter any pitfalls that could occur. Offer affection, not arguments. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take a laid-back approach to whatever you are dealing with. It's best to let others make the first move. Once you size up your situation, you will be in a better position to do what's best for you. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Learn from the lessons of the past in order to build a solid future. Your connections will make a difference to the outcome of a project you are working toward. It's OK to be different. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Avoid discussions that can negatively affect your chances of advancement. You'll be put in a difficult position if you give someone the upper hand. Don't let your emotions put you in a vulnerable or precarious position. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Relax and enjoy the ride. Everything will fall into place as long as you don't let anyone interfere in your plans. Set a goal and don't deviate from it just because someone makes a last-minute change. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Watch what's going on around you and take the route that will ensure your peace of mind. The way you handle others will make a difference in how you are perceived. Be honest and straightforward. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Partnerships will be tested. Don't let anger set in when it's better to be disciplined and understanding. You have plenty to gain if you let past experiences keep you from making an emotional mistake. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, practical and entertaining. You are dedicated and charming.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

7								6
		1		3		2		
		9				1		
	5		8		1		2	
	2	4				7	9	
	3		7		2		1	
		8				9		
		5		6		3		
4								5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	9	7	3	8	5	4	2	6
3	4	6	2	1	7	8	9	5
8	5	2	9	6	4	7	1	3
9	7	5	4	3	8	2	6	1
2	3	4	6	5	1	9	7	8
6	1	8	7	2	9	3	5	4
7	2	1	8	4	6	5	3	9
4	6	9	5	7	3	1	8	2
5	8	3	1	9	2	6	4	7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/18

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

GOING AWOL Solution: 7 letters

T	T	S	E	I	T	U	D	P	I	Y	D	E	L	A
N	N	R	E	T	N	E	S	B	A	N	P	V	U	C
A	E	E	N	P	V	Y	Q	W	A	S	T	A	F	C
C	N	T	M	O	A	U	A	R	O	S	S	E	G	E
A	A	R	M	N	I	R	T	R	P	R	N	L	N	P
V	M	E	I	T	O	S	A	L	T	O	K	F	O	T
A	R	S	L	L	Y	D	I	T	G	E	L	L	R	C
N	E	E	I	R	P	T	N	C	E	E	B	E	W	E
I	P	D	T	E	R	A	R	A	E	D	Ⓑ	N	E	L
S	T	O	A	I	O	Y	L	E	B	D	Ⓞ	N	C	G
H	W	A	R	D	H	T	I	W	B	A	Ⓛ	O	I	E
E	S	R	Y	L	I	L	A	C	T	I	Ⓣ	S	V	N
D	Y	M	O	O	B	I	F	U	S	S	L	R	R	A
I	A	Y	N	S	I	U	E	T	A	F	A	E	E	V
H	D	E	I	R	T	G	U	A	R	D	S	P	S	Y

©2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 8/19

Abandonment, Absent, Accept, Army, Away, Betray, Bolt, Cut, Days, Decision, Deserters, Duties, Enlist, Fail, Fate, Flee, Gone, Guards, Guilty, Hide, Intent, Leave, Liberty, Military, Navy, Neglect, Pass, Past, Permanent, Personnel, Prohibit, Quit, Removed, Separated, Service, Soldier, Split, Strand, Tried, Vacant, Vanished, Withdraw, Work, Wrongful

Yesterday's Answer: Thank You

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Checkout counter

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

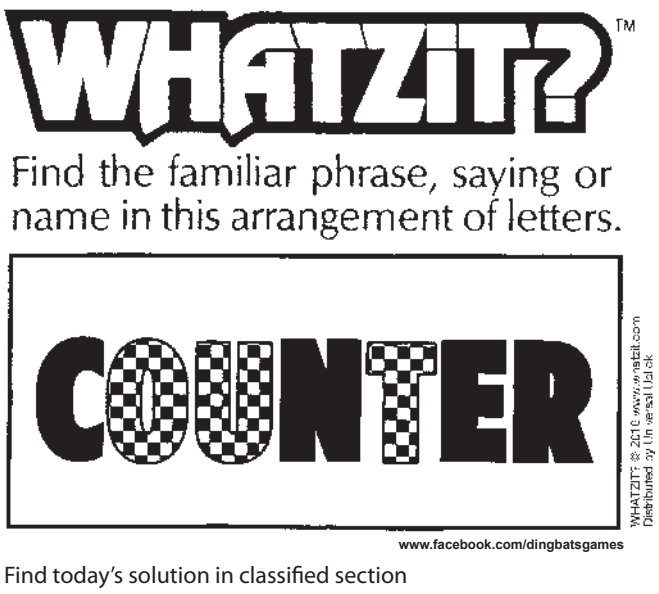
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find today's solution in classified section

Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 | Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP No.: 2016-CDA-07-RFP

CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 TIME: 10:00 a.m.

"INSURANCE FOR CDA'S PROPERTIES"

Copies of the Scope of Work may be obtained at the Commonwealth Development Authority office, 2nd Floor CDA Building in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours or by facsimile request to 235-7147.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Solar Energy Site Surveyor – Residential Solar

Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc. – CNMI
Gualo Rai, Saipan
Job Type: Full-time

Description:
FULL TIME! Competitive pay with amazing health insurance! Medical, dental, vision. Paid training with the Island's leader in Solar Power. Career path opportunities for top performers. Must have a valid driver's license. Must be able to pass pre-employment drug screen. Must be able to pass criminal background check.

The site surveyor must be skilled to obtain and communicate the necessary project information. Knowledge in areas of solar installations, roofing, construction experience, inspections and/or surveying experience and basic knowledge of residential electrical systems is preferred. Must be able to read plans, specifications, diagrams and equipment submittals. Must have a minimum of one year experience related to the above disciplines. Must have computer experience, ability to lift heavy weights, climb ladders and communicate effectively.

Please forward all resumes to the following email address –
pyoriocnmi@micronesiarenewableenergy.com

Mariana Resort & Spa

Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd.
dba Mariana Resort & Spa, Mariana Country Club, Mariana Seaside Circuit

Available Jobs
Eligible U.S. workers apply at the Human Resources Office, Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. (Marpi)

Bus Drivers
Front Desk Clerks

Submit resume or fill up an application attached with police clearance at Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd., H.R. office in Marpi. Drug test require.
Contact person: Emelina Santos Tel # 322-0770 ext. 402/409

D&Q International Distributors
A TanHoldings Company

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

SALES & MARKETING COORDINATOR

- The successful candidate will report to the sales manager and provide support services for our sales and merchandising teams in Saipan, Micronesia and Pacific islands. Will liaise with our Guam based marketing manager and other management personnel.
- High school graduate required, ideally with further studies in marketing or business.
- Must be reliable, honest, self-starter with good organizational skills. Must be able to work independently and under pressure.
- Must be fluent in English. The ability to speak a second language a plus.
- Advanced computer skills required. Ideally with Sage or similar accounting software plus Microsoft Excel to an advanced level.
- Will need to provide computerized reports and market surveys in a timely manner.
- Must have own reliable transport. Will be reimbursed for use.
- At times may need to be available to work on weekends or after hours.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, no later than August 26th, 2016. Applications may also be sent to: info@dqsaipan.com.

The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, -v- THE ESTATE OF GABRIEL D. DELA CRUZ and ROSA M. DELA CRUZ, Defendants.	:	CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0131

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated July 25, 2016 by order of the Court:

/s/ Clerk of Court

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) CAD Operator:

Required Bachelor's Degree and 5 years of experience. Proficiency in AutoCAD 2015, Google Sketchup 2016 and Microsoft Office.

Respond to N15 Architects by Email to admin@n15architects.com

share the power of a wish.
MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at: Make-A-Wish Guam
590 South Marine Corps Drive. ITC Bldg, Suite 109
Tamuning, GU 9691303507
Tel: (670) 483-9474 • Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org
Saipan Tribune

OCEANVIEW HOUSE FOR RENT

- **2 Bedroom, 1 bath** with carport, large balcony, large patio & gardens. Very private, no neighbors. Available 2 months only, fully furnished, August 25 – October 25. Upper Navy Hill/Chalan Galaide. **$950**/mo. Call Mike at 483-4868 for viewing.
- **2004 Toyota RAV4** also available for **$300**/mo same dates.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ACCOUNTANT (1) – Must have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting with a minimum of 5 years work related experience, proficient in MS Word, excel, Peachtree and QuickBooks, knowledge of General Accounting and aviation industry, maintain book of accounts, knows how to prepare Financial Statements, Bank Reconciliation, Bookkeeping, Year End reports, Revenue requirements, Accounts receivables and payables, payroll, withholding tax, FICA, BGRT, excise tax and other work assigned; drop and pick up of customers, booking of charter flights, medical evacuation preparation and directly report to the President. Rate: $6.05 to $ 7.50/hr.

GENERAL MECHANIC (1) – Minimum of 5 years professional experience as general mechanic, repairs and maintains physical structures of the facility, repairs of vehicles, office machines and equipments, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, air condition, and all other equipments of the company. Rate: $6.05 to $ 7.50/hr.

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Applications can be obtained at the Security Office at the Hotel's South Wing. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than Monday, August 29, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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Red Sox beat Orioles in rain-shortened game

BALTIMORE (AP)—Although the Boston Red Sox are the highest-scoring team in the majors, they've relied heavily on their pitching to put together a momentum-changing winning streak.

David Price allowed four hits before a rainstorm stopped play for good after six innings, and the Red Sox beat the Baltimore Orioles 8-1 on Wednesday night for their sixth straight victory.

Jackie Bradley Jr. homered and drove in four runs for the Red Sox, who swept the two-game series to climb past the Orioles into second place in the AL East.

Boston had lost 13 of 20 before sweeping three from Arizona, topping Cleveland in a makeup game and twice casting aside Baltimore.

"Our starters have set the tone in this stretch," manager John Farrell said.

Price (11-8) was cruising until a driving storm stopped play, and the game was finally called after a delay of 1 hour, 17 minutes.

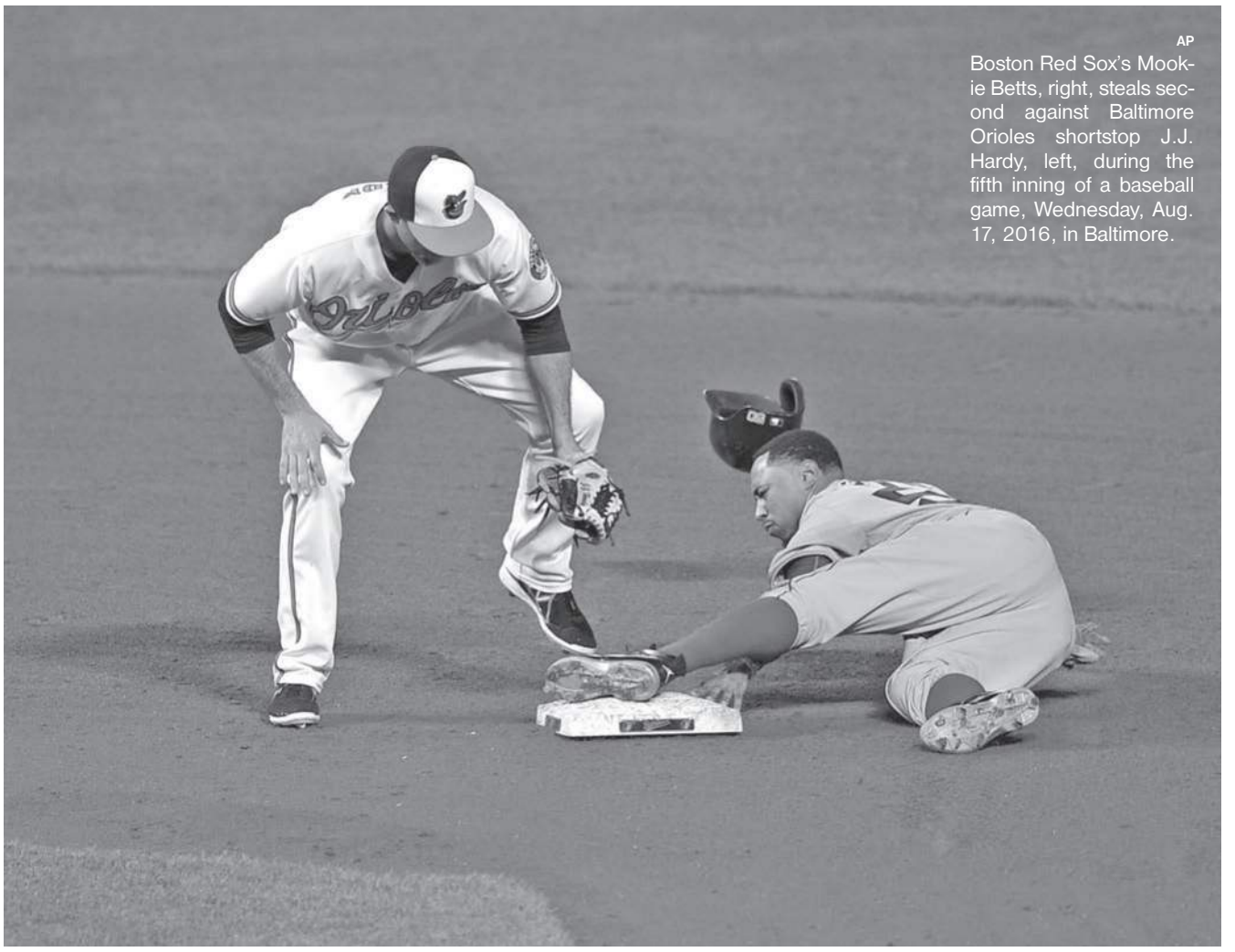
Price struck out four and walked none to earn his second victory in seven starts since July 10. The only run he allowed came on a second-inning homer by Chris Davis.

"We'll go as far as the starters take us, and we've thrown the ball well as a group," the left-hander said.

Boston outscored the Orioles 13-4 in the two games.

"We didn't pitch particularly well in certain spots," manager Buck Showalter conceded.

The Orioles' 39-19 home record is the best in the AL, but they're 2-4 against Boston at Camden Yards. Baltimore, which had been in first or second place since opening day, dropped behind Toronto and the Red Sox.



AP

Boston Red Sox's Mookie Betts, right, steals second against Baltimore Orioles shortstop J.J. Hardy, left, during the fifth inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2016, in Baltimore.

Mariners 4, Angels 3

In Anaheim, Ketel Marte drove in the tiebreaking run with a sacrifice fly, Leonys Martin scored from second base on a bunt, and the Seattle Mariners held against the Los Angeles Angels.

Robinson Cano had three hits, Kyle Seager and Chris Iannetta each had two hits and scored a run.

Dodgers 7, Phillies 2

In Philadelphia, Adrian Gonzalez hit two home runs and had five RBI and the Los Angeles Dodgers extended their NL West lead.

Justin Turner also homered and Joc Pederson reached base four times for the first-place Dodgers, who moved 1 1/2 games ahead of San Francisco.

Pirates 6, Giants 5

In San Francisco, Andrew McCutchen hit a two-run homer, Matt Joyce had a key two-run single and Pittsburgh overcame a four-run deficit against San Francisco to complete a three-game sweep.

The Pirates won their fourth straight game and sixth in seven. They remained a game behind St. Louis in the race for the NL wild card.

Cubs 6, Brewers 1

In Chicago, Jorge Soler hit a three-run homer during a five-run first inning, Jon Lester pitched into the seventh and Chicago beat Milwaukee for its 17th victory 20 games.

Soler's shot capped the inning after RBI singles by Ben Zobrist and Addison Russell.

Lester (13-4) got his fourth straight victory, giving up one run and three hits in 6 2/3 innings while striking out seven.

Blue Jays 7, Yankees 4

In New York, J.A. Happ won his 11th consecutive decision to become the first 17-game winner, Melvin Upton Jr. hit a three-run homer and Toronto beat New York.

Darwin Barney had an early two-run double, and Russell Martin added three hits, including an RBI single off CC Sabathia. The AL East-leading Blue Jays took two of three in the series, delighting a vocal contingent of Toronto fans at Yankee Stadium.

Diamondbacks 13, Mets 5

In Phoenix, Yasmany Tomas and Rickie Weeks Jr. each homered twice and drove in a combined 11 runs, leading Arizona past New York.

Tomas set a career high for RBI in a game with six and logged his major league-leading seventh multi-homer game of the season. Weeks tied a career high with five RBI and had his first multi-homer game in more than three years, the eighth of his career.

Cardinals 8, Astros 2

In Houston, Carlos Martinez took a no-hitter into the sixth inning, and Jeremy Hazelbaker and Brandon Moss homered in St. Louis' victory over Houston.

The Cardinals have won four straight and have a slim hold on the second NL wild-card spot.

Martinez (11-7) pitched seven innings of three-hit ball, allowing a run and striking out seven. He retired 15 of the first 16 batters before giving up a leadoff double to Teoscar Hernandez in the sixth.

White Sox 10, Indians 7

In Cleveland, Adam Eaton's ninth-inning grand slam off closer Cody Allen capped a five-run rally and lifted Chicago past Cleveland.

Cleveland was two outs from increasing its AL Central lead over second-place Detroit to seven games, but the White Sox rallied to break a seven-game losing streak against the Indians.

Royals 4, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Eric Hosmer hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to lift Kansas City past

Detroit for a three-game sweep.

Hosmer broke up Anibal Sanchez's no-hit bid with a double in the seventh inning after spoiling his perfect game with a walk in the fifth.

Sanchez threw seven shutout innings after allowing eight runs in four innings in his previous start. He struck out six and walked two Wednesday.

Rangers 6, Athletics 2

In Arlington, Yu Darvish struck out nine and Texas beat Oakland, giving the right-hander his first victory in his last 11 starts against the Athletics.

Darvish (4-3) had a demonstrative show of emotion, pumping his fist and letting out a shout, after striking out Coco Crisp to end the seventh inning. Darvish came back for the eighth, but was pulled after Danny Valencia's leadoff double.

Rockies 12, Nationals 10

In Denver, D.J. LeMahieu kept tormenting Washington with two hits, Gerardo Parra drove in four runs and Colorado beat Stephen Strasburg.

Tony Wolters homered and had three hits, and Charlie Blackmon extended his hitting streak to 12 games.

Reds 3, Marlins 2

In Cincinnati, Brandon Phillips drove in two runs with his second double of the game and Cincinnati rallied to beat Miami.

Billy Hamilton was on second base and Joey Votto on first after being walked intentionally in the seventh inning when Phillips lined a pitch from Nick Wittgen (3-2) to the gap in right-center field to drive in the go-ahead runs.

Rays 2, Padres 0

In St. Petersburg, Chris Archer struck out nine in 7 1/3 innings, Brad Miller homered again and Tampa Bay beat San Diego to complete a three-game sweep.

Archer (7-16) allowed four hits and a walk. He's at risk of becoming the majors' first 20-game loser since Detroit's Mike Maroth (21) in 2003, but also leads the AL with 186 strikeouts.

Miller hit his 25h homer in the first inning after going deep twice in a 15-1 rout Tuesday night.

Twins 10, Braves 3

In Atlanta, Kyle Gibson threw his first nine-inning complete game and Minnesota overcame two hits from Dansby Swanson in his big league debut to beat Atlanta.

Juan Centeno drove in the go-ahead run in the sixth, and Minnesota swept the two-game series between the major leagues' worst teams.

The Braves showed why they're five games worse than the Twins, dropping to 18-41 at home despite Swanson's strong debut in his hometown.

Gibson (5-7) began the night with a 7.98 ERA in three starts this month. Eric O'Flaherty (1-4) gave up three runs over one inning for Atlanta.

Maddon says Cubs haven't discussed Papelbon

CHICAGO—Jonathan Papelbon is expected to choose his new team among a reported several interested parties as soon as Wednesday. According to Joe Maddon, the Chicago Cubs won't be among the potential suitors.

The Cubs experienced some bullpen breakdowns over the weekend, but Maddon says he hasn't been contacted about bringing in Papelbon, who was recently released by the Washington Nationals.

"There really isn't," Maddon said of discussions with Cubs brass involving Papelbon, via the Chicago Tribune. "The guys have not discussed him with me. I've not heard a whole lot of scuttlebutt about the clubhouse yet, either. I like our group right now. I'm not saying it can't happen. Don't get me wrong. But for right now, there is nothing happening."

Cubs starting pitcher Jon Lester, a onetime teammate of Papelbon, went to bat for the reliever earlier this week, but it doesn't look like that convinced the team to take a flier on the once-dominating closer.

The fact that Papelbon has struggled mightily in 2016 hasn't helped matters, either. He was 2-4 with 4.37 ERA in 37 appearances before the Nationals cut him loose.

As WEEI.com also notes, "a drop in fastball velocity (90.9 mph this year) and strikeout rate (8.0), as well as an uptick in ERA (4.37) and walk rate (3.6)" is a source of concern for any team interested in bringing in Papelbon, as is his potential to be a clubhouse distraction.

All that aside, Maddon professed faith in his bullpen despite its recent struggles, highlighted by back-to-back late-inning losses to the St. Louis Cardinals.

"We've gone back and forth with different guys this year," he said. "As long as these guys are well, I have a lot of faith in the group in there right now."

Papelbon may in fact be able to come in and help a contender, but it cannot be understated that he represents a risk, arguably on several fronts. Someone as savvy as Maddon probably recognizes that potential and possibly let the higher-ups in the Cubs organization know about it.

Even without Woods, plenty at stake at Wyndham

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP)—There's still plenty at stake at the Wyndham Championship this year—even if some of the big names from last year aren't playing.

Tiger Woods didn't return, sidelined by a back injury. And Davis Love III—a local favorite and three-time winner who had hip surgery last month— is only watching.

When play begins Thursday at Sedgefield Country Club, the field once again will be littered with players trying to force their way off the PGA Tour's bubble in the final week of golf's regular season and earn spots in the first round of the playoffs.

Others are trying to make one last impression on Love, who's scouting as the captain of the U.S. Ryder Cup team.

Woods made his only appearance in Greensboro a year ago in a last-ditch effort to make the postseason. He finished four strokes behind Love and fell short of the top 125 on the points list.

But his presence had Sedgefield abuzz all week and helped the tournament set its modern-day attendance record of about 143,000 for the four rounds, including about 35,000 on the final day. It was the last tournament Woods played on the tour because of back surgery.

This is the next-to-last chance to earn Ryder Cup points, with the top eight players determined after the first playoff event at The Barclays next week at Bethpage Black.

Love will make his first three captain's picks Sept. 11 after the BMW Championship in Carmel, Indiana. The final pick comes two weeks later after the Tour Championship in Atlanta.

AP

Jimmy Walker chips to the ninth green during the pro-am for the Wyndham Championship golf tournament in Greensboro, N.C., Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2016.

Among Love's possibilities here this week: Jim Furyk plays his first round since shooting the first 58 in PGA Tour history during the final round of the Travelers Championship. Rickie Fowler is one of seven Olympians here, and 2007 Wyndham winner Brandt Snedeker also is back.

The Wyndham has long relished its spot as the last chance for the tour's bubble players to force their way into the FedEx Cup playoffs, which are open to the top 125 players on the points list, and secure their spots on the tour for next season.

"The playoffs, obviously that's where you can do the most damage," said Harold Varner III, who grew up in Gastonia and played college golf at East Carolina. "Right now, I feel good. I just want to seal my card. That's the biggest thing because sometimes you don't get into all the events your rookie year.

"I did a pretty good job of that, got into two majors. A lot of positives, but there's still some big tournaments coming up, like this one this week."

Varner sure seems safe at No. 79 on the points list in his first year on the tour. Others aren't nearly so secure.

Every player ranked from No. 121 to No. 135 has entered. Some, like No. 121 David Toms and No. 124 Matt Jones, want to play well enough to hold on to their spots. Others, like No. 126 Scott Stallings and No. 129 Steve Marino, need to earn enough points to move up a few spots.

Cowboys' defense marked by youth, unproven vets

OXNARD, Calif. (AP)—The Dallas defense figures to start the season with a cornerback as its career sacks leader, which explains why Rod Marinelli recently was asked if he can remember coaching so many inexperienced or unproven players.

And when someone suggested that he would prefer a batch of Pro Bowl pass rushers instead, the Cowboys defensive coordinator skipped the obvious one-word answer and said, "That we develop."

Owner Jerry Jones and son Stephen, the executive vice president of personnel, are counting on that mentality with Dallas missing three suspended starters to open the season. It's possible that two of them—linebacker Rolando McClain and rush end Randy Gregory—will miss the entire season dealing with their issues.

Add to that a mediocre 2015 when the Cowboys were last in the NFL in takeaways and turnover margin, and the questions were plentiful at training camp. The Cowboys broke camp Wednesday and play their preseason home opener Friday night against Miami.

"Those things hurt," Marinelli said of McClain's 10-game suspension and the four-game ban for Gregory and fellow end DeMarcus Lawrence—all on violations of the NFL's substance-abuse policy.

"But disarray sounds like everybody's going different directions. Nobody knows what they're doing. I think of a bunch of men who want to play like a unit. If we just play together as a defense, we did that a couple of years ago, and this has got a little more talent actually right now than we did."

Marinelli spoke of 2014, when Dallas was among the league leaders by forcing 31 turnovers on a 12-4 team that won the NFC East and a playoff game.

But when quarterback Tony Romo and receiver Dez Bryant missed significant time with injuries last season, the defense couldn't make up the difference with game-changing plays as the Cowboys tumbled to 4-12.

The Cowboys tried the approach of a proven pass rusher in free agency last year, signing Greg Hardy despite the stain of a domestic violence case and a looming suspension that originally was 10 games but reduced to four. Hardy's production sagged along with the team's fortunes late in the season.

So now, cornerback Orlando Scandrick enters the season with the most sacks (9 1/2, same as the missing McClain). And the biggest pickup in free agency was Benson Mayowa from Oakland on an offer sheet. He has two sacks in three seasons.

"This is why we have 100 guys out here at camp because you have to find the next person to fill in to those shoes," cornerback Brandon Carr said. "And also it's up to us veteran guys as leaders out there on the defense to kind of set the tone, to hold everybody accountable."

Marinelli prefers an eight-player rotation in his line, and he has plenty of unheralded choices at the moment. Cedric Thornton out of Philadelphia is a free agent addition in the interior line, along with rookie third-round pick Maliek Collins from Nebraska.

The other edge rushers are a mix of returning players (Lawrence when he gets back, David Irving, Ryan Russell), newcomers (rookie fourth-rounder Charles Tapper, Mike McAdoo) and a pair who can play inside and outside (Jack Crawford, Tyrone Crawford).

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Edralin, Galvez win opening games in Sun Palace tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Deether Edralin and Andreau Galvez prevailed in the pair of opening matches in the 2016 Sun Palace Badminton Team Tournament last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Edralin was pitted against Jordan Pangilinan in the men's A single event and needed three games to win his first assignment, 21-10, 20-22, 22-4. Galvez also played an extended match, losing the opening game to Daniel Macario, 14-21, before sweeping the last two, 21-9, 21-10.

Eight other matches were scheduled at the kick-off day of the Sun Palace Hotel-sponsored and Northern Marianas Badminton Association-sanctioned tournament.

One of them is the men's AB doubles tiff where Pangilinan, with Nathan Guerrero, this time defeating Edralin and Jeff Riman, 21-18, 13-21, 21-18. In the other game in the same division, Macario partnered with Rodwealth Espana and they won over Galvez and Mhar Dela Cruz, 21-14, 21-19.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Deether Edralin returns to Jordan Pangilinan during their men's A singles game in the 2016 Sun Palace Badminton Team Tournament last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Guerrero had his second game in the opening day when he partnered with Hajin Oh in slipping past Riman and Jun Kim, 21-16, 17-21, 21-11, in the men's BC doubles, while Espana also went 2-0 on Day 1 as he and Taeho Kim topped Patrick Fernandez and A.J. Ortega, 21-13, 23-21.

In the women's C singles, Allysa Velasco rallied past Helly Montes, 18-21, 21-14, 21-12, while Miles Rodriguez swept Yoko, 21-9, 21-6. Velasco also saw action in the mixed BC doubles, but she and Chris Hilario lost to Jaja Bocago and Jun Kim, 16-21, 17-21. In the other mixed BC double game, Vilma Reyes and Dela Cruz outclassed Espana and Merlie Savellano, 19-21, 21-16, 21-16.

Meanwhile, action in the Sun Palace tournament continued last Saturday and Sunday and 20 matches were completed with results of each game counted in the standings of the five participating squads—Blue, Red, Black, White, and Pink.

Labor Day softball tourney set

Teams that wanted to participate in next month's Labor Day Softball Tournament have until next week to register. The event will be held on Labor Day weekend from Sept. 2 to 4.

The entrance fee is $150 and the deadline for registration is on Aug. 26, which will also be the final day to pay the full registration fee. The tournament is for all-male or female teams.

Venue will be announced at a later date, but event organizers are looking at having the competition at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

The number of teams is limited for easy organization of the tournament, which will have a double elimination round format and will follow official rules of the Amateur Softball Association of America.

For more information, call Froilan Camacho Jr. at 2850318. ***(Jon Perez)***

MEDALS

From Page 32

dles—a feat that's never been accomplished in that event.

A banner evening, for sure. The nation entered the night with 13 medals and left the track with a total of 19— five gold, seven silver, seven bronze.

"It was an awesome hour," Bartoletta said.

She started things off by unseating Reese, the defending Olympic champion, in the long jump. Moments later, Bowie won her second medal in Rio by taking bronze in the 200 meters. Not long after that, the hurdlers made history. This was the seventh medals sweep by the U.S. track team in the Olympics and the 23rd for U.S. women in the history of the Summer Games.

And yes, they realized what their fellow Americans were up to. Ali watched Bowie, her suitemate in Rio, bring home another medal as the hurdler waited to take the track.

That fired Ali up. And then her hurdles teammates did the same thing.

"They smiled at me and were like, `It's time. Do your part," Ali said. "I need to go out there and do my part. For Team USA, I knew it would be a great thing."

How about this for an early birthday present: About an hour after the race Rollins turned 25.

"I tried to feed off all the positive energy from Team USA," Rollins said. "We were able to come out here and fulfill our dreams. It was an amazing opportunity. I was trying to enjoy each and every moment. I'm just happy to share the moment with Kristi and Nia."

And to think, the evening got off on the wrong foot when Justin Gatlin surprisingly went out in the semifinals of the 200.

There went a good shot at an Olympic medal. There went another showdown with Usain Bolt.

An ankle injury hampered the 34-year-old Gatlin, who won a silver medal Sunday in the 100.

"For me, it has been an honor to be able to come out here," Gatlin said. "At the end of the day, seeing all of these young guys and young ladies out here doing a great job, it's an honor to be able to be a part of the team and run for my country."

Earlier in the day, Evan Jager earned silver in the 3,000-meter steeplechase—America's first medal in that event since 1984. A hint of things to come.

"Every single time I saw someone on the (medal) stand, I tried not to get emotional," Castlin said. "I was like, `I could get on the stand.' It always feels good to see your teammates doing well.

"We're from all different states and universities. It feels good to come out and do a great job."

In other action across the Rio Games, Americans Kerri Walsh Jennings and April Ross won bronze in beach volleyball and the Jamaicans had a big night at the track with Elaine Thompson winning the women's 200 meters and Usain Bolt cruising to a win in the semifinals of the men's 200.

Japan's Kaori Icho has become the first wrestler in Olympic history to win four gold medals, beating Russia's Valeriia Koblova Zholobova 3-2 in 58-kilogram women's freestyle. Icho also is the first woman to win an individual gold medal in four straight Olympics, having started her historic run at the inaugural women's tournament in Athens in 2004

KANOA

From Page 32

In the penultimate elimination game, Kanoa was never threatened to stretch its winning streak to 10. Shirley's failed to contain Douglas Schmidt early, as the former Palau National Team member scored 13 points, matching their foe's entire output to give Kanoa a double-digit lead at the break, 38-13.

Schmidt remained on target in the second half, dropping 11 straight markers in the early goings of the final frame before finishing what he started as he drained Kanoa's last 9 points to complete their domination of Shirley's.

The Kanoa gunner ended up outgunning the whole Shirley's crew after logging 33 points. Ernest Duenas and Dindo Pablo were the other double-figure scorers for Kanoa, adding 17 and 11, respectively. Erick Dela Rosa paced Shirley's with his 12 points.

In the last game, Fiesta eliminated Lower Base after drawing solid games from Jarrett Matsutaro and Paul Quizon.

Matsutaro recorded 25 points and was consistent on offense for Fiesta, drilling 12 in the first half to lift his team to a 33-22 advantage. Quizon made only 6 in the opening 20 minutes of play, but finish strong to help Fiesta retain its safe distance against Lower Base. Jerald Rivera contributed 14 in Fiesta's double-digit victory over.

Lower Base failed to advance to the playoff round after losing in the tiebreak against JP Mambas, which matched the former's 3-7 mark after a win via forfeiture against Pacific Oriental, Inc. in the first game last Friday. League officials broke the tie (based on tournament ground rules) by combining the tied teams scores in 10 games and dividing it by the total scores of their opponents. JP Mambas ended up with an average of 0.818 to beat the 0.757 of Lower Base.

Meanwhile, the Kanoa-JP Mambas tiff has been scheduled as Game 1 and will be played at 6:30pm, while Game 2 between Shirley's and Fiesta is set for 8:30pm. Winners in Games 1 and 2 will battle for the first finals berth in Game 3 next Friday, while losers will collide in a rubber Game 4. The victor in Game 4 will then meet the loser in Game 3 in the fight for the last finals ticket on Sept. 2. Game 1 of the finals will then be played on Sept. 9, while Game 2, if needed, will take place on Sept. 16.

First Game

Kanoa Resort 73 — Schmidt 33, E. Duenas 17, Pablo 11, Sacramento 8, Bustillo 2, Usi 1.

Shirley's 28 — Dela Rosa 12, Drilon 4, Pamintuan 4, Jugos 4, Catungal 3.

Scoring by halves: 38-13, 73-28.

Second Game

Fiesta 72 — Matsutaro 25, Quizon 20, Rivera 14, Esdrelon 8, Macoto 5.

Lower Base 62 — Fujihira 17, Jinang 14, Santos 13, W. Benavente 13, Riungel 3, Camu 2, Alegre 2.

Scoring by halves: 33-22, 72-62.

SINGLES

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for the first finals berth today.

The winner of the all-CNMI semis match will go for the division title against the victor of the Final Four tiff between Fiji's Kelese Kofe and Tahiti's Vaitea Molinier. Kofe pulled off an upset over the fourth-ranked Samuel Strid of Vanuatu, 6-2, 2-6, 10-4, to gain a semis berth in the lower half of the draw. Molinier completed the Final Four cast after cruising past compatriot's Brendon Fong, 6-1, 6-1.

Meanwhile, pool play games in the other divisions wrapped up yesterday and playoff matches will kick off today, along with the doubles tiffs.

In the girls U16 singles, defending champion Carol Lee had a four-game sweep after shutting down Vanuatu's Daisy Sipiti, 4-0, 4-0, in their Group A match. With her clean slate in the pool play, Lee drew a bye in the first round of the playoffs and automatically moved into the quarterfinals where she may face CNMI teammate Tania Tan. Tan finished fourth in Group 2 with her 1-3 and must beat American Samoa's Maanaima Tausi in the first round today to get a crack at Lee.

The CNMI's third bet in the girls U16 singles—Isabel Heras—joined Tan in Group 2, placing third in the pool with her 2-2 record. She also got a bye at the start of the playoffs and is paired against the fourth-ranked Ruby Coffin of Fiji in the lower bracket quarterfinals.

In the girls U14 singles, all four Commonwealth players are in the playoffs. Asia Raulerson (4-1) finished second in Group 2 following her 4-2, 4-2 victory over Kiribati's Caroline Mwang yesterday. Raulerson is pitted against fellow CNMI player Conatsu Kaga in the quarterfinals as the latter had a 3-2 mark and ended up at third place in Group 1 after beating compatriot Maria Gregoire, 4-0, 4-0, yesterday. Gregoire dropped to fourth with her 2-3 mark and unfortunately she will also face a fellow Commonwealth bet in Malika Miyawaki, who bowed to No. 2 seed Lea Lamorelle, 2-4, 2-4, to fall to third place in Group 2.

In the three other singles contests, the CNMI's Michael Ren and Vincent Tudela will be facing higher-ranked foes in the U16 players, and Coume Kaga has the same tough assignment in the girls U12, while Ji Min Woo and Seung Jin Paik faltered in their semis bids in the boys U12 age group.

Ren, who failed to win a single match in the pool play, will challenge the fourth-ranked Mason Caldwell of Guam in the first round of the 16-player draw. Tudela, on the other hand, will duel Vanuatu's Marlin Hannam, the second finisher in Group 1's pool play. Coume, who placed third in Group 1 with her 3-2 mark, will square off against Group 2 second finisher and Tahiti's Celine Snogan (4-1).

In the boys U12 singles, Woo and Paik will play in the consolation games for the No. 5 to 8 final rankings in the division after losing to New Caledonia's Terence Winter, 2-6, 2-6, and No. 1 seed Maui Leflon of Vanuatu, 0-6, 0-6, respectively.

US routs Argentina, moves into men's basketball semis

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)— The nail-biters ended for the U.S. Olympic men's basketball team.

So did a golden era of international basketball.

Emphatically stopping a stretch of three straight close games, the Americans advanced to the semifinals by sprinting past Manu Ginobili and Argentina, 105-78 on Wednesday night.

In front of a chanting, flag-waving crowd of Argentines who came to throw a raucous farewell party for their Golden Generation, the Americans delivered their most complete performance in Rio.

"What a remarkable run by Argentina and so we knew we had to match that energy tonight. I thought we did," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said.

Turning a slow start into an early ending with a 27-2 run in the first half, the Americans put away one old rival and set up a meeting with another. They will play Spain on Friday in a rematch of the last two gold-medal games. Australia meets Serbia in the other semifinal.

Kevin Durant scored 27 points for the Americans, who had played three straight close games for the first time under Krzyzewski, setting off a round of questions at home and in Rio de Janeiro about what was wrong with them.

The answer might be nothing. At least there wasn't against Argentina.

"We wanted to come out and our whole thing was dominating," forward Carmelo Anthony said.

The Americans eliminated Argentina for the third straight Olympics, this time ending not only a tournament run for the Argentines but also a couple careers.

Ginobili, 39, and longtime 36-year-old teammate Andres Nocioni retired from international competition after the game, 12 years after winning gold in Athens.

AP

United States' DeAndre Jordan (6) shoots over Argentina's Andres Nocioni, left, during a quarterfinal round basketball game at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2016.

"We had a chance to grow up together and do some good things, win some games together. It was fun. It's a lot of years," said Luis Scola, who is also 36 but plans to keep playing. "We formed part of something unique we did for our country and it's going to be there. Sometimes we're not going to win, like today, sometimes we won but we fought together for many years."

Ginobili scored 14 points in his final game in Argentina's blue and white, tearing up after receiving applause from his fans and warm wishes from his opponents.

"They congratulated me and I'm very proud of their words," Ginobili said. "They were very kind, very respectful and when legends of the game showed their respect, it has an extra value."

The Americans have won 23 straight in the Olympics since Argentina beat them in the 2004 semifinals, and this was how they usually do it: too much firepower, too much defense, and way too much talent.

It took a little while to get going, as Argentina opened a 10-point lead. The Argentines made nine of their first 10 shots inside the arc and led 19-9 when Nocioni drilled a 3-pointer. But the Americans finished the first period with a 16-2 run, getting the final six points from DeMarcus Cousins, to take a 25-21 edge to the second.

Three-point plays by Cousins and Jimmy Butler around Durant's 3-pointer in an 11-0 start to the second made it 36-21 before Facundo Campazzo stopped the onslaught with a three-point play.

Cousins, the normal starting center playing as a reserve, finished with 15 points.

Spain beat France 92-67 earlier Wednesday, its fourth straight victory after two losses to open the Olympics.

The U.S. edged Spain 118-107 in the 2008 final and 107-100 four years ago in London.

The loudest crowd yet for a U.S. game, featuring boxer Floyd Mayweather and NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, was treated to an explosive performance by the Americans, with devastating crossovers by Durant and Kyrie Irving that left defenders helpless and brought teammates to their feet on the bench.

They opened a 25-point lead in the first half and were in control from that point, the first time since their second game in Rio they had it easy.

Parker says goodbye to Olympics following France's loss to Spain

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)— Before going their separate ways, Tony Parker and Paul Gasol met near mid-court and the new teammates shared a warm embrace following Spain's lopsided win.

They'll soon be together in San Antonio to chase an NBA title.

They'll never meet again in the Olympics.

Nearly written off after two losses to open the Rio Games, Spain is back in the men's basketball semifinals for the third straight time following a 92-67 rout of Parker and France in the quarterfinals on Wednesday. With Spurs-like offensive precision, the Spaniards got easy looks at the basket and dissected a French team that came to Brazil with medal hopes but leaves empty-handed.

After the loss, a nostalgic Parker, the dazzling point guard who made France relevant on international hardwood, said he would no longer play for his home country.

"I just took a lot of pride playing for the national team," said the 34-year-old Parker, who scored 14 in his final game. "I just love playing in this competition. I love this atmosphere, which is very different than the NBA. Growing up, my dream was to win an NBA championship. That was my ultimate goal. But as I grew up, I fell in love with the national team.

"We won the gold medal in juniors when I was 18. So then my goal was to try to bring the first national team ever championship for France, and we did that in 2013. Overall, just great experiences. I enjoyed it all these years. These last 16 years have been great. I don't regret one second."

Nikola Mirotic scored 23 points, Willy Hernangomez added 18 and Spain pulled away in the third quarter to reserve a spot in Friday's semis.

When Spain opened the preliminary round with losses to Croatia and Brazil, it appeared the country's standing among the world's basketball elite might be in decline. However, the two-time defending silver medalists have overcome injuries, a summer of free agency and a lack of practice time together to again advance to the global version of the Final Four.

For Parker, his second Olympics ended like his first: without a medal hanging from his neck. While he has won four titles with the Spurs and is considered one of the game's premier point guards and basketball ambassadors, Parker never attained the international success he's had in the NBA.

Still, he'll cherish the time he spent wearing France's uniform, hearing "Le Marseillaise" played or watching the nation's tri-colored flag raised after a victory.

"I think we put French basketball on the map," he said.

Neymar, Brazil come out blazing, face Germany in finals

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)— With the fastest goal in Olympic history, Neymar led Brazil back to the gold-medal match.

The Barcelona striker scored 15 seconds into the game and converted a penalty kick in second-half injury time Wednesday to lead Brazil over Honduras 6-0 in the semifinals of the men's tournament.

Gabriel Jesus added two goals in the first half at the packed Maracana Stadium and Marquinhos and Luan scored a goal each in the second.

Brazil has never won the Olympic title, and lost in the final at the 2012 London Games.

"We won and we won well, but if in the final we don't play well again, all of this will be for nothing," Brazil midfielder Renato Augusto said. "We don't want to disappoint the fans. They want us to play well and they want us to win the gold."

The host country will play Germany in Saturday's final. The Germans beat Nigeria 2-0 in Sao Paulo.

Brazilian fans had been hoping for a sort of rematch against Germany, whose senior team embarrassed Brazil 7-1 in the semifinals of the World Cup two years ago.

"Hey Germany, just wait, your turn is coming up," the fans chanted at the Maracana.

Only the gold will be enough for a talented Brazilian team playing at home and considered the main title-favorite in a tournament played mostly with under-23 squads and very few stars.

The Olympic gold medal is the only major trophy the five-time World Cup champions haven't won in soccer.

With Neymar thriving, Brazil was in command from the start in front of the more than 70,000 fans at the Maracana.

It didn't take long for the Barcelona player to put the hosts ahead.

Honduras defender Johnny Palacios had the ball under control at the top of the penalty area but gave it away as Neymar closed in quickly, and the striker took advantage to get on the board. His shot was initially blocked by Honduras goalkeeper Luis Lopez but the ball bounced off Neymar's leg and went into the net.

Neymar, one of the biggest stars at the Rio de Janeiro Games, collided with Lopez on the goal and lay on the field grimacing for several moments before trying to stand. Struggling after several steps, he collapsed again and was stretchered off the field and attended to before being able to return.

"Scoring a goal that early was spectacular for us," Brazil coach Rogerio Micale said. "It helped us break the game open and it made everything easier."

Mexico forward Oribe Peralta previously held the record for fastest goal at the Olympics after scoring 29 seconds into the final in London four years ago, when the Mexicans upset Brazil 2-1 to win the gold. Honduras striker Alberth Elis had tied that mark in a game against Portugal in the group stage at the Rio de Janeiro Games. Janine Beckie took only 20 seconds to score for Canada against Australia in the women's tournament in Rio.

Red Sox beat Orioles in rain-shortened game

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Sports

US routs Argentina, moves into men's basketball semis

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All-CNMI semis in boys U14 singles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI is assured of a finals berth in the boys U14 singles division in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships after Top 2 seeds Robbie Schorr and Ken Song prevailed in their respective playoff matches yesterday in Lautoka, Fiji.

Schorr swept Vanuatu's Warea Tigona, 6-1, 6-2, in the upper bracket quarterfinals to earn a return trip to the semifinals. Song also took only two sets to move into the Final Four, but had a tougher time in the second before eliminating fellow CNMI player Sean Lee, 6-2, 7-6 (7). Schorr and Song, who were the losing semifinalists in the same division last year, will collide

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ken Song serves while Robbie Schorr gets ready near the net during the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships held at the AMP tennis courts early this year. Song and Schorr will meet in the boys U14 singles semis in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji.

Sweep for Kanoa Resort; playoff round starts today

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kanoa Resort's Rodney Sacramento catches an alley-oop pass from Douglas Schmidt while Shirley's Coffee Shop's Ariel Drilon looks on during the first half of their game in the Tan Holdings caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kanoa Resort finished the elimination round of the 2016 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League unbeaten following a 73-28 demolition of Shirley's Coffee Shop last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Kanoa wrapped up the double-round robin regular season with a 10-0 record to gain the top seeding in the playoff round, which will be played today. The top-ranked Kanoa will duel the fourth-seeded JP Mambas in the opening of the double-elimination playoffs, while No. 3 Shirley's (6-4) will take on No. 2 Fiesta Resort (7-3). Fiesta kept the second spot going into the playoffs after downing Lower Base (3-7) in the last regular season match, 72-62.

See KANOA on Page 30

'Awesome Hour' on the track as US captures 6 medals

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)— Tianna Bartoletta kicked off her country's whirlwind run of medals on the night. So, by all rights, she should get to name it.

Fittingly, the newly crowned Olympic long jump champion went with "Awesome Hour."

In a span of about 60 minutes Wednesday night, U.S. athletes hauled in a bevy of medals: Bartoletta and Brittney Reese went 1-2 in the long jump, Tori Bowie captured a bronze in the 200 and Brianna Rollins, Nia Ali and Kristi Castlin swept the medals in the 100-meter hur-

See MEDALS on Page 30

AP
Gold medal winner United States' Brianna Rollins, center, silver medal winner United States' Nia Ali, right, and bronze medal winner United States' Kristi Castlin celebrate after the women's 100-meter hurdles final during the athletics competitions of the 2016 Summer Olympics at the Olympic stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2016.

MEDAL COUNT

COUNTRIES	G	S	B	T
UNITED STATES	30	32	31	93
GREAT BRITAIN	19	19	12	50
CHINA	19	15	20	54
RUSSIA	12	14	15	41
GERMANY	12	8	9	29
JAPAN	10	5	18	33
FRANCE	8	11	12	31
ITALY	8	9	6	23
NETHERLANDS	8	4	3	15
AUSTRALIA	7	8	9	24
KOREA	7	3	6	16
HUNGARY	6	3	4	13
KENYA	4	3	0	7
SPAIN	4	1	2	7
JAMAICA	4	0	2	6
NEW ZEALAND	3	6	1	10
BRAZIL	3	5	4	12
KAZAKHSTAN	3	3	6	12
CANADA	3	2	9	14
CROATIA	3	2	0	5
DPR KOREA	2	3	2	7
CUBA	2	2	4	8
POLAND	2	2	3	7
THAILAND	2	2	2	6
COLOMBIA	2	2	0	4

As of 5:00 p.m. August 18, 2016

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